IRELAND: The Old Sod Is New Again

MARCH 2005

# Smithsonian

## COLD CASE

## ALASKA'S MISSING FUR SEALS

Rethinking Churchill

A Conundrum Called Iran

Jules Verne's Ballooning Reputation

Live Fast, Die Young: Modigliani in Paris

The New Science of Earthquake Prediction

ALASKA ◆ ASIA & PACIFIC ◆ CANADA & NEW ENGLAND ◆ CARIBBEAN ◆ EUROPE

# Paradise need not be confined

PLUSH COTTON TOWELS. Massage showerheads. Sealy® Euro-Top mattresses. Private verandahs. The largest staterooms of any major cruise line and more space per guest throughout the ship. All adding up to a luxurious oasis with shifting coordinates—and an environment you'll enjoy as much as the places you visit. *Call your travel agent or 1-877-SAIL HAL, or visit www.hollandamerica.com.*

SPACIOUS, ELEGANT SHIPS ◆ GRACIOUS, UNOBTRUSIVE SERVICE ◆ WORLDWIDE ITINERARIES

Ships' Registry: Netherlands, Bahamas.

HAWAII ◆ MEXICO ◆ PANAMA CANAL ◆ SOUTH AMERICA ◆ WORLD VOYAGE

to a particular latitude or longitude.

Holland America Line

*A Tradition of Excellence*

EXTENSIVE ACTIVITIES AND ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS ◆ SOPHISTICATED FIVE-STAR DINING

**With the military since 1941.**

This and other stories at mms.com/history

Chocolate is Better in Color™

# FOR A *FANTASTIC* FINISH TO YOUR DAY...

Cartoon Tale Wine ©2024 Fat Boy Vineyards, Livermore, CA. All Rights Reserved.

## SKI THE GLADE TRAIL TO

# REDWOOD CREEK

## SATISFY YOUR TASTE FOR ADVENTURE!

we see
the king of the skies.
Children dream of flight, to soar. These dreams become their potential. And with the right tools and a little help, they'll make them more than their passion; they'll make them their life. This is just one of the infinite possibilities that inspires us to create software that helps you reach your potential. microsoft.com/potential
Your potential. Our passion.™
Microsoft®

© 2004 Microsoft Corporation. All rights reserved. Microsoft and "Your potential. Our passion." are either registered trademarks or trademarks of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and/or other countries.

# Smithsonian

MARCH 2005 VOLUME 35, NUMBER 12

## FEATURES


**38 FUTURE SHOCKS**

Scientists in the unstable Pacific Northwest are turning to the past to try to predict the likelihood of earthquakes and tsunamis

BY KEVIN KRAJICK / PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SMALE

**48 TRACES OF A LOST PEOPLE**

Nomads who roamed the Colorado Plateau thousands of years ago left a stunning collection of paintings on steep canyon walls

BY KURT REPANSHEK

**54 A NEW DAY IN IRAN?**

An American journalist returns to the land of his birth to discover surprisingly friendly feelings for the United States

BY AFSHIN MOLAVI

**64 A PUZZLE IN THE PRIBILOFS**

The number of fur seals converging on the rookeries of the Alaskan archipelago is dwindling. Why? Scientists and Aleuts want to know BY DOUG O'HARRA

**72 MODIGLIANI: MISUNDERSTOOD**

A new exhibition commands viewers to look beyond the painter's reputation as a "dashing, drug-using, womanizing wastrel"

BY DOUG STEWART

**80 IRELAND UNLEASHED**

Amid a high-tech boom, the Emerald Isle is enjoying prosperity hard to envision only a few decades ago

BY JOSEPH A. HARRISS / PHOTOGRAPHS BY STUART FRANKLIN

**90 CONTEMPLATING CHURCHILL**

Even as he is enlisted in the war on terror 40 years after his death, Britain's wartime leader is downgraded by some historians

BY EDWARD ROTHSTEIN


"During Modigliani's short life, the going rate for his oddly distorted paintings was less than $10, and takers were few. A landlord who confiscated some of his work in lieu of rent used the canvases to patch old mattresses."

—"MODIGLIANI: MISUNDERSTOOD," PAGE 72

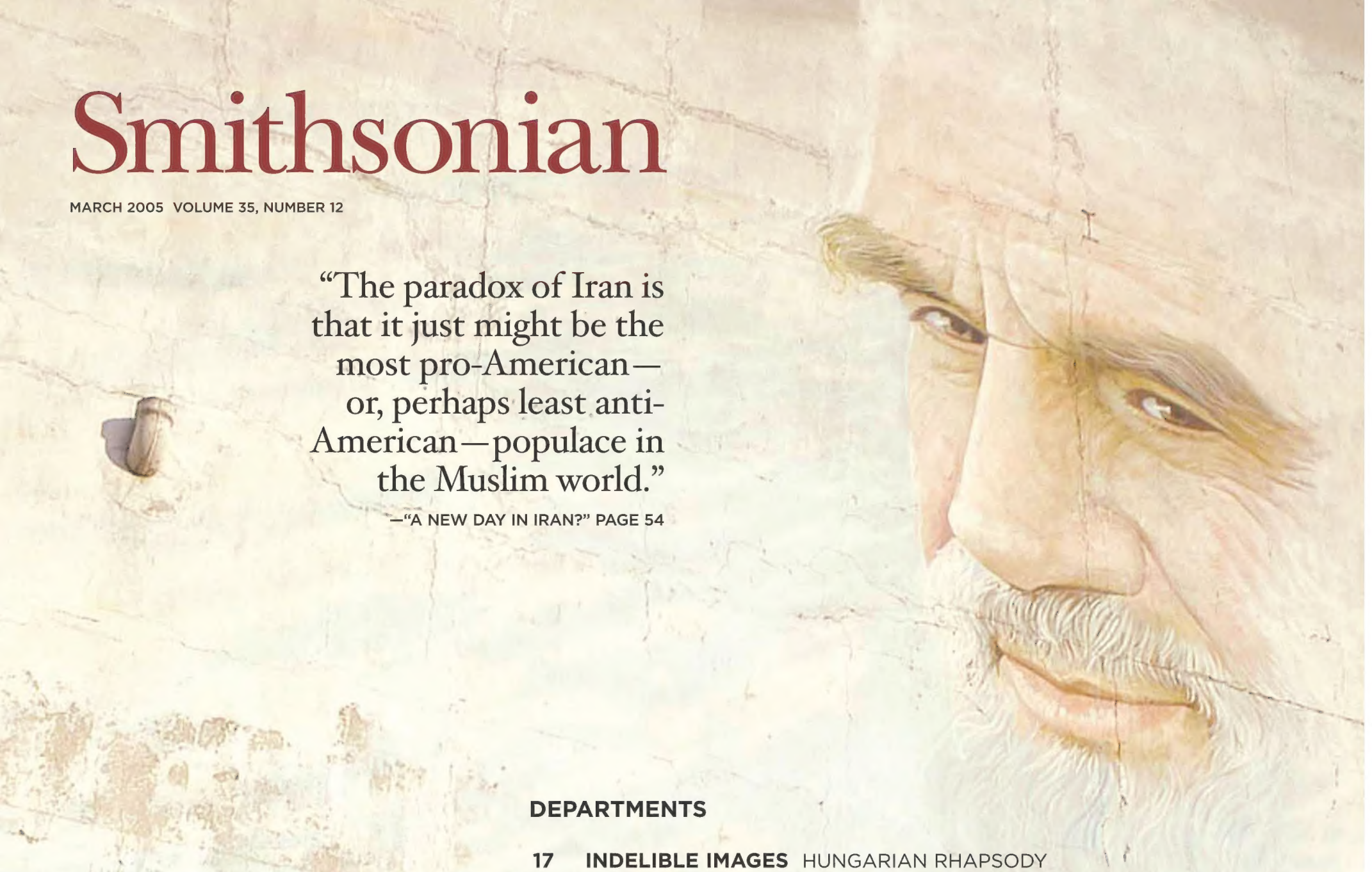
French poet Jean Cocteau (a 1916-17 portrait by Modigliani) called the misbegotten artist "the simplest and noblest genius of that heroic age."

**ON THE COVER:** What is killing the northern fur seals (a youngster on St. Paul Island) of Alaska's Pribilofs? Photograph by Yva Momatiuk and John Eastcott / Minden Pictures

HENRY AND ROSE PEARLMAN FOUNDATION

# Smithsonian

MARCH 2005 VOLUME 35, NUMBER 12



"The paradox of Iran is that it just might be the most pro-American—or, perhaps least anti-American—populace in the Muslim world."

—"A NEW DAY IN IRAN?" PAGE 54

Many of Iran's young are rejecting the strictures of the mullahs (Ayatollah Khomeini seems to survey a Tehran street).

**VISIT SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE ON-LINE.** For further reading on our story topics, more images from our photographers, listings of events and exhibitions at the museums, information on Smithsonian Journeys Educational Travel, or to join our readers' panel, visit www.smithsonianmag.com

## DEPARTMENTS


**17 INDELIBLE IMAGES** HUNGARIAN RHAPSODY
Budapest-born André Kertész catches an akimbo dancer in full flower
BY TERENCE MONMANEY

**20 THE OBJECT AT HAND** THE SHIRT OFF HIS BACK
In donating a puffy artifact to the National Museum of American History, comedian Jerry Seinfeld proves himself a stand-up guy
BY OWEN EDWARDS

**25 DIGS** WHERE EAST MET (WILD) WEST
Chinese immigrants who followed the gold rush to Deadwood, South Dakota, found only pockets of tolerance in the Black Hills
BY RAFFI KHATCHADOURIAN

**103 TRIBUTE** PRESCIENT AND ACCOUNTED FOR
New translations in hand, readers discover more than fantastical science fiction in the novels of Jules Verne, who died 100 years ago this month
BY DOUG STEWART

**8 EDITOR'S NOTE** SECOND THOUGHTS
**10 FROM THE SECRETARY** CHILD OF WONDER
**12 LETTERS**
**14 THE YEAR WE WERE BORN**
**28 LEWIS AND CLARK** THE MISSOURI BREAKS
**30 AROUND THE MALL**
**36 THIS MONTH IN HISTORY**
**108 THE LAST PAGE** ANOSMIA BY ANY OTHER NAME


NEWSHA TAVAKOLIAN / POLARIS

# Tazo Zen

When the flavorful Tazo® blend of green tea, spearmint and lemongrass tickles your tongue, the enlightenment begins.

tazo.com

TAZO® IT BEGINS *with* TEA™

©2005 NYAT. All rights reserved.

SMITHSONIAN
INSites

www.smithsonianmag.com
The advertisers listed below invite you to connect with them on the World Wide Web for additional information about their products and services.

AIR&SPACE
Smithsonian
www.airspacemag.com

THE FLORIDA KEYS & KEY WEST
MONROE COUNTY TOURIST DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Come as you are®
www.fla-keys.com

SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE'S
MUSEUM DAY
APRIL 30, 2005
www.smithmagmuseumday.com

Sandals
Love Is All You Need
www.sandals.com

Smithsonian Journeys
www.SmithsonianJourneys.com

America's Caribbean
United States Virgin Islands
St.Croix | St.John | St.Thomas
www.usvitourism.vi

Smithsonian www.smithsonianmag.com

**EDITOR**
Carey Winfrey

**ART DIRECTOR**
Brian Noyes

**EXECUTIVE EDITOR**
Terence Monmaney

**MANAGING EDITOR**
Sally Scott Maran

**SENIOR EDITORS**
Diane M. Bolz
Kathleen M. Burke
Laura Helmuth

**GENERAL EDITOR**
Andrew Curry

**SENIOR PHOTO EDITOR**
Bonnie Stutski

**COPY CHIEF**
Karen Larkins

**ASSISTANT MANAGING EDITOR**
Alison C. McLean

**ASSOCIATE EDITORS**
Lyn Garrity
Bruce Hathaway
Marian Smith Holmes
Lucinda Moore
Beth Py-Lieberman

**COPY EDITOR**
Rebecca Maksel

**ASSOCIATE ART DIRECTOR**
Erik K. Washam

**PHOTO EDITOR**
Molly Roberts

**ASSISTANT EDITORS**
E. Anne Bolen
Angela M. Pleasants
Helen Starkweather
Chai N. Woodham

**ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR**
Brendan McCabe

**PHOTO DEPARTMENT MANAGER**
Carrie D. Shea Schilling

**ASSISTANT TO THE EDITOR**
Andrea Georgiou

**EDITORIAL ASSISTANTS**
Mimi Kirk
Michelle L. Strange

**READER SERVICES**
Karla A. Henry
Carolyn McGhee

**INTERN**
Anne Broache

**EDITORIAL OFFICES:**
MRC 951, Washington, D.C.
20013-7012
(202) 275-2000

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:**
**(800) 766-2149**
P.O. Box 420312
Palm Coast, FL 32142-0312
www.smithsonianmag.com
Outside the United States:
(386) 447-2721

Sorry, but SMITHSONIAN cannot assume responsibility for unsolicited materials.

**SMITHSONIAN BUSINESS VENTURES**
Gary M. Beer, **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**
Jeanny Kim, **DIRECTOR, MEDIA AND CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**
Adolfo Marzol, **CHAIRMAN**
Gary M. Beer, John R. Dailey,
Frank A. Daniels, Jr., Alice Maroni,
M. Ronald Ruskin, Donald J. Steiner,
Anthony Welters

**PUBLISHER**
Amy P. Wilkins

**GENERAL MANAGER**
David R. Kefford

**ADVERTISING**
Thomas M. Huber, **ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER**
Caryl Heard, **SALES DEVELOPMENT MANAGER**
Marilyn Cruz, **ADVERTISING SERVICES MANAGER**
**ACCOUNT MANAGERS**
**NEW YORK:** Gayle Lambert, Meryle Lowenthal, Jill Reid Mullan
**SOUTHWEST:** Carol Orr, Jan Horner **MIDWEST:** Dick Opfer, Bill Milligan, Mark Rosenbaum, Tanya Amini, Karen Koller **DETROIT:** Don Heth, Angie Rooney, David Sauter, Jill Severini **WEST COAST:** Gary Thompson, Martha Quigley, Cheryl Smith **HAWAII:** Audrey Higuchi **CANADA:** Richard Brown, Cindy Ratych **FLORIDA / CARIBBEAN:** Karen Rames, Jay Stelzer **CENTRAL AMERICA:** Al Nadal **MEXICO / SOUTH AMERICA:** Lorelei Jones, Patricia Echenique **JAPAN:** Simon R. Timmis **EUROPE:** Ken Melville

**ADVERTISING ASSISTANTS**
Melissa Alvarez, Neal Charles, Arwen Lowbridge

**MARKETING**
Diane Lowman, **DIRECTOR**
Kelly Cannon, **ASSOCIATE MARKETING DIRECTOR**
Renée Martin, **ART DIRECTOR**
Mary Wright, **TRAVEL MARKETING MANAGER**
Andrew Grant, **SENIOR PROMOTIONS MANAGER**
Adam Roth, **COORDINATOR**
Christopher Tedrick, **MERCHANDISING COORDINATOR**

**RESEARCH**
Renée Mitchell, **DIRECTOR**
Marilyn Resciniti, **MANAGER**
Katherine Madson, **RESEARCH ANALYST**

**CONSUMER MARKETING**
Scott I. Rockman, **VICE PRESIDENT**
Lisa Dunham, **CIRCULATION DIRECTOR**
Elizabeth M. Hopkins, **PLANNING DIRECTOR**
Andrea Sole, **FULFILLMENT DIRECTOR**
Donald G. Dodd, **FORECAST MANAGER**
Suzanne L. Eng, **PURCHASING MANAGER**
Rosemary S. McGuire, **RETENTION AND GIFT DIRECTOR**
Lori Paldino, **DIRECT MAIL MANAGER**
Nancy Timko, **GIFT MANAGER**
John O'Hare, **MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COORDINATOR**
Alexandria Lopez, **ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT**
Amity Boone, **RENEWALS MARKETING COORDINATOR**

**PRODUCTION**
Greg Williams, **DIRECTOR**
Katherine Balch, **PRODUCTION MANAGER**
Rachel L. Gilmore, **DIGITAL ADVERTISING COORDINATOR**
Sarah Kingsley, **DIRECTOR OF MANUFACTURING**
David Sterling, **PREPRESS MANAGER**
Rahsaan J. Jackson, **DIGITAL COLOR ANALYST**
Frank Matthew Hale II, **ASSISTANT PREPRESS MANAGER**

**BUSINESS OFFICE**
Myrian Mora, **EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR**
Michael Pollock, **ADVERTISING SYSTEMS MANAGER**
Lawrence Sirna, **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE/GENERAL LEDGER MANAGER**
Jeff Campagna, **ACCOUNTING SPECIALIST**
Sadiqa Robinson, **BUSINESS ANALYST**

**HUMAN RESOURCES**
Dana S. Moreland, **DIRECTOR**
Teshia R. Williams, **HUMAN RESOURCES GENERALIST**
Eric J. Ruffin, **OFFICE MANAGER**
Judy Smith-Fowler, **MANAGEMENT ASSISTANT**
Leonidias Dicks, **SUPPORT SERVICES ASSISTANT**
Dennis I. Osorio, **SUPPORT SERVICES ASSISTANT**

**WEB DEVELOPMENT**
Michelle A. McMahon, **DIRECTOR**
Christine Hull, **WEB DEVELOPER**
Thea Joselow, **WEB DEVELOPER**

**ASSISTANT TO THE PUBLISHER**
Edward J. Hayes

**MAIN ADVERTISING OFFICE:**
420 Lexington Avenue, Suite 2335
New York, NY 10170
(212) 916-1300

Smithsonian Institution


**SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION**

Lawrence M. Small

**BOARD OF REGENTS**

The Chief Justice of the United States
CHANCELLOR

Vice President of the United States,
Richard B. Cheney

Hon. Thad Cochran
Hon. Bill Frist, M.D.
Hon. Patrick J. Leahy
Hon. Sam Johnson
Hon. Ralph Regula
Mr. Eli Broad
Ms. Anne d'Harnoncourt
Dr. Hanna H. Gray
Dr. Manuel L. Ibáñez
Dr. Walter E. Massey
Mr. Roger W. Sant
Mr. Alan G. Spoon
Ms. Patricia Q. Stonesifer
Mr. Wesley S. Williams, Jr.

**SMITHSONIAN NATIONAL BOARD**

Mrs. Patricia Frost, CHAIR
Mrs. Jane B. Eisner, Mrs. Elizabeth S. MacMillan, Mr. Henry R. Muñoz III, VICE CHAIRS

NATIONAL BOARD: Mrs. Claudia Ream Allen, Mr. Kenneth E. Behring, Mr. L. Hardwick Caldwell III, Mr. Richard O. Campbell, Mr. Paul L. Cejas, Mr. Pete Claussen, Mrs. Margaret Collins,* Mr. George A. Didden III, Mr. Robert G. Donnelley, Mr. Bradford M. Freeman, Mr. Stephen Hamblett, Mr. Frederic C. Hamilton, Mr. Michael R. Haverty, Mr. Richard W. Herbst, Mr. John E. Herzog, Ms. Irene Y. Hirano, Mr. Richard D. Kinder, Mrs. Dorothy G. Lemelson, Mr. Peter H. Lunder, Mr. Frank Martucci, Mr. Edgar M. Masinter, Ms. Amy Sarah McCombs, Mr. Chris E. McNeil, Jr., Mr. Augustus C. Miller, Mr. Howard P. Milstein, Mr. Charles H. Moore, Mrs. Susan Reed Moseley, Mrs. Mary Ourisman, Mr. Paul L. Peck, Mr. S. Davis Phillips, Mr. Thomas F. Pyle, Jr., Ms. Susan Lynch Ruddy, Mr. Richard T. Schlosberg III, Hon. Rodney E. Slater, Mrs. Helen Spaulding, Mrs. Beatrice R. Taylor

HONORARY MEMBERS: Mr. Robert McC. Adams, Mr. William S. Anderson, Hon. Max N. Berry, Mr. Richard P. Cooley, Mr. Joseph F. Cullman 3rd, Mr. Frank A. Daniels, Jr., Mr. Charles D. Dickey, Jr., Mr. Alfred C. Glassell, Jr., Mr. I. Michael Heyman, Mr. James M. Kemper, Jr., Mrs. Jean B. Mahoney, Hon. George C. McGhee, Justice Sandra D. O'Connor, Mr. Francis C. Rooney, Jr., Mr. Wilbur L. Ross, Jr., Mr. Lloyd G. Schermer, Hon. Frank A. Weil, Mrs. Gay F. Wray

* Ex-Officio





# Provide For Your Future And The Smithsonian's.

That's exactly what Gloria Hamilton is doing by making a Smithsonian charitable gift annuity.

"I had some stocks that were paying very little in dividends, but the capital gains tax on selling them would have been tremendous. I realized that creating a charitable gift annuity with the Smithsonian would work to benefit both of us."

Gloria Hamilton, a special friend who is thinking of the Smithsonian's future.

Advantages of a Smithsonian Gift Annuity include lifetime payments at attractive rates, plus significant tax benefits for your charitable contribution.

## Sample Rates

Effective July 1, 2003
(ONE BENEFICIARY)

| | |
|---|---|
| Age 65 | 6.0% |
| Age 75 | 7.1% |
| Age 85 | 9.5% |
| Age 90+ | 11.3% |

Smithsonian Institution
P.O. Box 37012 MRC 035
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012

Smithsonian Legacy Society
(888) 419-7584
e-mail: legacy@omd.si.edu
www.si.edu/plangiv

❑ Send information on a Smithsonian Charitable Gift Annuity

Birthdates(s):_____

Amt: ❑ $10,000 ❑ $100,000 ❑ $50,000 ❑ _____

❑ I want to know more about gifts to the Smithsonian that provide me with income for life

❑ Send information on including the Smithsonian in my will

❑ I have already included the Smithsonian in my will

Name:_____

Address:_____

_____

Phone:_____

Smithsonian Legacy Society
P.O. Box 37012 • MRC 035
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012

PG503SM

ADVERTISEMENT

SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE'S
MUSEUMDAY
APRIL 30, 2005

**Leave your wallet at home, visit a museum on us!**

Saturday, April 30, 2005 is *Smithsonian* magazine's Museum Day. To celebrate our 35th Anniversary, we are offering you and a guest free admission to over 460 participating museums and cultural institutions across the country. Look for more details and a complete listing of participants in the April issue of *Smithsonian* or visit **www.smithmag-museumday.com.**

Sponsored by:
TIAA CREF
FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR THE GREATER GOOD

www.smithmagmuseumday.com

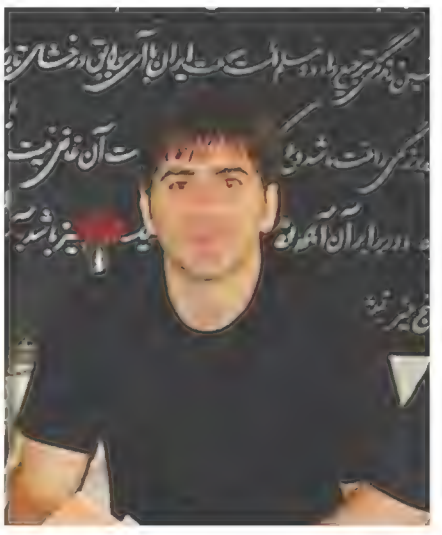


# Second Thoughts

*Things are not always what they seem*

BY CAREY WINFREY

"IRANIANS are overwhelmingly hospitable people," says Afshin Molavi, an American journalist born in Iran who returned there to report "A New Day in Iran?" (p. 54). Molavi, author of the book *Persian Pilgrimages: Journeys Across Iran*, was careening through Tehran's streets in a taxi when the driver asked him what he missed most about the city. "Fresh pomegranate juice on every street corner," Molavi answered, trying to sound casual. Slamming on the brakes, the driver spun his car around, then speeded the wrong direction up a one-way street to stop in front of a fruit juice stand. "Shaken, I gulped the sour, cold pomegranate juice, and reached for my wallet to pay. 'No, you are my guest,' the merchant said. 'No, you are mine,' the driver said. 'No, you are both mine,' I insisted, ordering another round. Then we haggled on the side of the road over who would have the 'honor' of buying the juice."



Molavi: "No, you are both mine."

AFSHIN MOLAVI COLLECTION; EDWARD ROTHSTEIN

"THE MORE I STUDIED Churchill's life and writings," says Edward Rothstein, author of "Contemplating Churchill" (p. 90), "the more certain I became that I would not have liked him very much." Rothstein, a critic-at-large for the *New York Times*, was drawn to his subject when, following 9/11, Churchill's anticipation of the mounting German threat in the 1930s and his wartime leadership of Britain began to be invoked—and repudiated—as models for thinking about the war on terrorism. "I wanted to understand better what Churchill saw coming when most of his countrymen thought his perceptions perverse, and I wanted to understand, too, the nature of his leadership and why it made such a difference," says Rothstein. "Very likely," he goes on, "I would have considered him insufferable, an egoist in silk underwear, a self-aggrandizing narcissist. Even Churchill's friends had to exhibit patience and indulgence. It is no wonder his political allies often came to be wary of him. Yet as I have become less enamored of him as a social being, I have become more amazed at the qualities of his mind, his rhetorical gifts, his foresight and restless inventiveness. He was a Great Man who was often less than a great man."

Rothstein at Chartwell: "Great" but not "great."

# WHERE WE COME FROM, NICE GUYS FINISH FIRST.

Really. You see, we are not your typical $300 billion financial services group. Not by a long shot. With our long nonprofit heritage, we have spent over 85 years working off one unique premise – serve those who serve the rest of us. Today, we continue that mission by helping to ensure the long-term financial well-being of people in the academic, medical and cultural fields. You know, the nice guys. People like nurses, teachers, researchers, custodians, musicians and millions more like them whose career choices inherently add value to the greater good of society. Because they put the needs of others first in their lives, they will always come first in ours.

For more information go to www.tiaa-cref.org.

TIAA CREF

FINANCIAL SERVICES FOR THE GREATER GOOD™

032189 © 2005 Teachers Insurance and Annuity Association College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA CREF), 730 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017

# Child of Wonder

*Cristián Samper's lifelong love of flora and fauna inspires creative new displays of the world's largest collection*

FROM A YOUNG AGE, Cristián Samper felt little uncertainty about what he wanted to be when he grew up. Director since 2003 of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (NMNH) and at age 39 the youngest person to lead the museum in its 100-year history, Dr. Samper has long been interested in animals and plants. As a boy living in Bogotá, Colombia, he wanted nothing so much as to collect or care for them. His father once gave him some butterfly specimens, including one stunning Morpho butterfly, an insect native to South America, with wings such a glittering shade of blue that he still remembers it vividly. "I was fascinated with them," Dr. Samper says. "I wondered where they lived and wanted to know everything about them." At age 15, he went on his first expedition to the Amazon rain forest, as a field assistant, and loved the experience. He has continued focusing on that region's flora and fauna and has conducted other research all over the world, from Alaska to South Africa.

Samper was born in Costa Rica, lived briefly in Chile and studied biology at the Universidad de los Andes, in Colombia, before getting both a master's and doctoral degree at Harvard. He now oversees the largest collection of any museum in the world, with more than 126 million specimens, which includes, certainly, several Morpho butterflies. He's guiding the NMNH at a time of great change, leading it into an era full of exciting developments, such as the Hall of Mammals, which opened in 2003; the Ocean Hall, scheduled for completion in summer 2008; and a future hall, the Hall of Human Origins, dedicated to the scientific quest to understand human evolution.

As a museum director and biologist, Dr. Samper is fully dedicated to teaching people about the diversity of life on earth and the integral role that humans play in that evolving drama. As he explains it, "We are the product of nature and we, in turn, have an impact on that nature." This notion of the interrelatedness of all life is as central to his scientific work as it is to the direction of the NMNH. Dr. Samper has specialized in the study of evolutionary ecology in the cloud forests in the Andes, documenting the diversity of species there and their relationship to each other. For instance, in the humid, high-altitude forests of La Planada, a Colombian nature reserve he first visited as a young field assistant, delicate orchids live as epiphytes on other plants.

Dr. Samper listens to questions from young visitors at the NMNH Hall of Mammals.

Dr. Samper believes the NMNH must display its vast, highly esteemed collection in new and creative ways that emphasize the relationships between pieces of the collection and the scientific concepts that connect and explain them. This next generation of exhibitions will differ markedly from the way natural history museums have historically shown their collections—static exhibits featuring panels of text and related specimens behind glass. For the Ocean Hall, by contrast, the NMNH will bring together the scientific community's most current thinking about everything from the geology beneath the ocean's surface to the relationship between humans and the sea. The Ocean Hall, like the new Hall of Mammals, will also make extensive use of interactive technology, including live video feeds from field expeditions. Other state-of-the-art displays will introduce visitors to the scientific research being done at the museum and also keep the exhibits up-to-date. Visitors to the Hall of Mammals already can touch specimens, watch educational videos and play science-themed games.

Dr. Samper is committed to making the NMNH's exhibits much more than a showcase for the amazing collection. "This is not just preaching with panels," he says, "but rather giving people ways to explore this hall—and this world—by themselves, so that they will develop a whole new understanding of nature and our relationship with it."

*Lawrence M. Small*
SECRETARY OF THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

D.A. PETERSON; MOLLY ROBERTS

## SELF ADHESIVE.

Take off in a Ford Explorer and enjoy some peace of mind with your scenery. The good feeling comes courtesy of a brand-new, standard and segment-exclusive innovation. It's the AdvanceTrac® System with Roll Stability Control.™ RSC's computer brain monitors and adjusts your traction 150 times per second to help keep you firmly planted. Visit fordvehicles.com.

Ford

**EXPLORER**

Built for the road ahead.

*Readers respond to the January issue:*

### PLAY IT AGAIN, OSCAR

THE COURAGE AND fortitude that Oscar Peterson displayed to return to playing the piano after a stroke reduced mobility in his left hand shows not only that he has the "will to swing," but the will to live and inspire others to overcome hardships ("Return of a Virtuoso"). As an Oscar admirer since 1950, I've seen him perform every chance I could, and have been continuously awestruck by his talent. Pure joy flows from his fingers.

*YVONNE HIGGINS MESSERSCHMIDT*
FLOSSMOOR, ILLINOIS

ANYTIME I HEAR criticism that Oscar Peterson's virtuosity disguises a lack of soulfulness or musicality, I think of his recording of "Time and Again." Any competent pianist can play it, but you would have to search far and wide to find a more beautifully or more sensitively played piece.

*BRIAN SHIBAYAMA*
MERCER ISLAND, WASHINGTON

### RAILROADED

AS A FOURTH-GENERATION native of the area, I must explain why the railroad bypassed New Philadelphia, Illinois, the biracial community founded in the 1800s ("Ahead of Its Time?"). The reason is topography. The railroad had to climb out of the Illinois River valley to the top of a ridge and stay along that ridge until it could descend into the Mississippi River valley. The idea that the route was racially biased is poppycock at best.

*ROBERT L. ERVIN*
WEST BLOOMFIELD, MICHIGAN

### EATING BUSHMEAT

"STOP THE CARNAGE," about wildlife poaching in Africa, struck me as lacking a broader perspective about the people illegally hunting for food. While the article mentions the war-torn conditions of the countries and the lack of seafood be-




Celebrate the return of spring...
with a visit to some of the world's best gardens

Learn about England's love of gardening at the magnificent Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew and explore castles and palaces from London to the surrounding countryside. Relaxed lectures about England's history, art, architecture and garden design will enhance your journey along the way.

- London
- Windsor Castle
- Dover
- Hidcote Manor
- Hampton Court Palace
- Leeds Castle
- Blenheim Palace
- Sudeley Castle

**Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures**
**England's Castles, Palaces and Countryside**
*10 days, 13 meals* • Starting at **$1999***

*Rates are per person, based on double occupancy and land only.

Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures offers the best in educational travel worldwide. Our custom-crafted tours are created for adventurous travelers like you, who seek the thrill of discovery and learning, combined with flexibility and economical rates. And our local expert speakers really make the difference between simply seeing and truly understanding your destination.

**Call 1-800-528-8147 and mention promotion code A043-AX1-918 or contact your local travel agent.**
**www.smithsonianjourneystraveladventures.org**

Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures with COLLETTE VACATIONS

BRITAIN

CST # 2006766-20 UBN # 601220855
AD066 0105

cause of overfishing by foreign fleets, most of it is about the animals. How are our priorities straight when we—who have all the food we need—portray these poor people as criminals, though they've hunted these animals traditionally for thousands of years? I think you gave the Africans the short end of the stick.

*JEANNE DREWES*
EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN

*The article, which reported the growing scientific evidence that the bushmeat trade endangers the balance of wildlife in the Congo Basin, focused on efforts to prevent poaching in a critical forest preserve where hunting is prohibited. —Ed.*

THE HEINOUS bushmeat profiteers who flourish in certain African nations are violent criminals who commit crimes against nature. That gorillas, elephants, monkeys and other species are inhumanely slaughtered to placate human palates is an atrocity. The United Nations should constructively intervene to ensure that these nations are provided the nutritious grains, soy and vegetables for their people to survive.

*BRIEN COMERFORD*
GLENVIEW, ILLINOIS

## FLORIDA BEGINNINGS

I ENJOYED "Rethinking Jamestown," Jeffery L. Shelers' story about the ill-fated English colony. It is good to realize that these settlers, long disparaged as lazy and inept, were in fact just plain unlucky—a much-needed correction to the mythologies propagated by earlier historians. However, I choked on archaeologist William Kelso's quote, the article's last word: "this is where modern America began." Not so. A few hundred miles south of Jamestown is St. Augustine. When Jamestown was settled in 1607, St. Augustine had been succeeding for 42 years. Founded by the Spanish explorer Pedro Menendez de Aviles in 1565, it served as the capital of a Spanish colonial domain that extended from the Florida Panhandle to Georgia and the Carolinas. If anywhere, modern America began there.

*MIGUEL A. BRETOS*
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Please send letters to LettersEd@simag.si.edu or to **Letters, Smithsonian, MRC 951, P.O. Box 37012, Washington, D.C. 20013.** Include a telephone number and address. Letters may be edited for clarity or space. Because of the high volume of mail we receive, we cannot respond to all letters. Send queries about the Smithsonian Institution to info@si.edu or to VIARC, Public Inquiry Mail Service, P.O. Box 37012, Washington, D.C. 20013.

The only airline with non-stop service to 'off the beaten path.' About half a day's flight from here, you could be there. The most beautiful place on earth. To book your tickets on the airline with more non-stop flights to New Zealand, visit our website for special internet fares. And let the fun begin.

AIR NEW ZEALAND
A STAR ALLIANCE MEMBER

# March 1970

# THE YEAR WE WERE BORN

A LOOK BACK AT THE WORLD IN *SMITHSONIAN* MAGAZINE'S FIRST YEAR

CELEBRATING 35 YEARS SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Firemen remove the remains of Weatherman Diana Oughton from the Greenwich Village town house ruins March 10.

### CATHY WILKERSON

MEMBER OF THE WEATHERMEN

CATHY WILKERSON and four fellow radical activists known as the Weathermen accidentally blow up her father's Greenwich Village town house in New York City, March 6, while constructing bombs intended for "establishment" locations. Wilkerson, 25, and Kathy Boudin, 26, escape the blast; Theodore Gold, 23, Terry Robbins, 21, and Diana Oughton, 28, are killed.

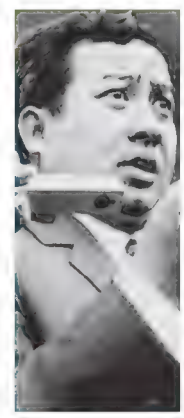
Wilkerson, now 60, surrendered herself to authorities in 1980 and served 11 months in prison on explosives charges. She now works in math staff development with the New York City public schools and is writing her memoirs. Although Wilkerson says she still feels "committed to equality," she now calls the Weathermen's vision "limited" and adds: "We responded to society's problems without anticipating the pitfalls of violence; we mimicked our government's violent strategy for change." Boudin served 22 years on an unrelated charge and is now on parole. She lives in New York.

The *New York Times* calls the Tower of the Sun sculpture at Expo '70, Asia's first world's fair, "part Picasso, part Miró, part totem pole, and part early Japanese sculpture." The exposition, which opened March 15 in Osaka, Japan, and ran for six months, attracted 64 million visitors.

## IN THE NEWS

In Erfurt, East Germany, March 19, East and West German leaders meet for the first time since the nation split into two states in the fall of 1949. The next day, West German chancellor Willy Brandt declares, "Erfurt was a beginning." Germany is reunified October 3, 1990.

Before dawn on March 16, a group of Native Americans fails to take over Ellis Island and turn it into a center of Indian culture and history. Later that morning, the group holds a press conference. "It's time for my people to stand up," says Choctaw leader John Whitefox. Today Whitefox, 52, attends college in Oakland, California.



In a bloodless coup, Cambodian general Lon Nol overthrows Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk on March 18. Unable to suppress the Khmer Rouge, Lon Nol flees to Hawaii in 1975, where he dies ten years later at age 71. Sihanouk (left) returns to power in 1991. Citing ill health, he abdicates in October 2004 at age 81.

## THE LIST

### Top TV Shows of 1970

1. Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In
2. Gunsmoke
3. Bonanza
4. Mayberry R.F.D.
5. Family Affair
6. Here's Lucy
7. The Red Skelton Hour
8. Marcus Welby, MD
9. Wonderful World of Disney
10. Doris Day Show

## COMINGS & GOINGS

**BORN:** Queen Latifah, actress/rapper, March 18

**DIED:** Erle Stanley Gardner, 80, writer, March 11

"We were guffawing like madmen because we had just smoked a joint in the toilets of Buckingham Palace. We were so nervous."

—**JOHN LENNON**, ON HOW THE BEATLES HAD READIED THEMSELVES, FIVE YEARS BEFORE, TO RECEIVE THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE FROM QUEEN ELIZABETH, QUOTED IN THE MARCH 23 *WASHINGTON POST*

*CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: BETTMANN / CORBIS; YOSHIAKI NAYASHIMA / PACIFIC PRESS SERVICE; BETTMANN / CORBIS (2); RUFUS F. FOLKKS / CORBIS; BETTMANN / CORBIS; PENNY TWEEDIE / CORBIS; PAUL HOSEFROS / NEW YORK TIMES; CATHY WILKERSON COLLECTION*

# Long-Lasting And Non-Drowsy Relief. Allegra 180mg Gives You Both.

| | LONG-LASTING* | NON-DROWSY |
|---|---|---|
| | ✓ | ✓ |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |

## One dose of non-drowsy Allegra 180mg lasts 4X longer than one dose of most over-the-counter allergy products.*

For people 12 and over. Side effects with Allegra 180mg are low and may include headache, cold or backache.
Please see additional important information on next page.

## ALLEGRA. THE RELIEF GOES ON.

sanofi aventis
Because health matters

© 2005 Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc. ALG-JA-18204-1.
Aventis Pharmaceuticals, a member of the sanofi-aventis Group

*Based on label directions.
Brands listed are trademarks of their respective companies.

Rev. May 2003a

Brief Summary

**ALLEGRA®**

**(fexofenadine hydrochloride)**

**Capsules and Tablets**

**INDICATIONS AND USAGE** **Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis** ALLEGRA is indicated for the relief of symptoms associated with seasonal allergic rhinitis in adults and children 6 years of age and older. Symptoms treated effectively were sneezing, rhinorrhea, itchy nose/palate/throat, itchy/watery/red eyes. **Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria** ALLEGRA is indicated for treatment of uncomplicated skin manifestations of chronic idiopathic urticaria in adults and children 6 years of age and older. It significantly reduces pruritus and the number of wheals. **CONTRAINDICATIONS** ALLEGRA is contraindicated in patients with known hypersensitivity to any of its ingredients. **PRECAUTIONS** **Drug Interaction with Erythromycin and Ketoconazole** Fexofenadine hydrochloride has been shown to exhibit minimal (ca. 5%) metabolism. However, co-administration of fexofenadine hydrochloride with ketoconazole and erythromycin led to increased plasma levels of fexofenadine hydrochloride. Fexofenadine hydrochloride had no effect on the pharmacokinetics of erythromycin and ketoconazole. In two separate studies, fexofenadine hydrochloride 120 mg twice daily (two times the recommended twice daily dose) was co-administered with erythromycin 500 mg every 8 hours or ketoconazole 400 mg once daily under steady state conditions to normal healthy volunteers (n=24 each study). No differences in adverse events or QTc intervals were observed when patients were administered fexofenadine hydrochloride alone or in combination with erythromycin or ketoconazole. The findings of these studies are summarized in the following table:

**Effects on steady-state fexofenadine hydrochloride pharmacokinetics after 7 days of co-administration with fexofenadine hydrochloride 120 mg every 12 hours (two times the recommended twice daily dose) in normal volunteers (n=24)**

| *Concomitant Drug* | $C_{max ss}$ *Peak plasma concentration* | $AUC_{0\tau,ss}$ *Extent of systemic exposure* |
|---|---|---|
| Erythromycin 500 mg every 8 hrs | ↑82% | ↑109% |
| Ketoconazole 400 mg once daily | ↓ 35% | ↓164% |

The changes in plasma levels were within the range of plasma levels achieved in adequate and well-controlled clinical trials. The mechanism of these interactions has been evaluated in *in vitro*, *ex vivo*, and *in vivo* animal models. These studies indicate that ketoconazole or erythromycin co-administration enhances fexofenadine gastrointestinal absorption. In some animal models also suggest that in addition to increasing absorption, ketoconazole decreases fexofenadine hydrochloride gastrointestinal secretion, while erythromycin may also decrease biliary excretion. **Drug Interactions with Antacids** Administration of 120 mg of fexofenadine hydrochloride (2 x 60 mg capsule) within 15 minutes of an aluminum- and magnesium-containing antacid (Maalox®) decreased fexofenadine AUC by 41% and $C_{max}$ by 43%. ALLEGRA should not be taken closely in time with aluminum- and magnesium-containing antacids. **Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis, Impairment of Fertility** The carcinogenic potential and reproductive toxicity of fexofenadine hydrochloride were assessed using terfenadine studies with adequate fexofenadine hydrochloride exposure, based on plasma area under the concentration vs. time (AUC) values. No evidence of carcinogenicity was observed in an 18-month study in mice and in a 24-month study in rats at oral doses up to 150 mg/kg of terfenadine, which led to fexofenadine exposures that were respectively approximately 3 and 5 times the exposure from the maximum recommended daily oral dose of fexofenadine hydrochloride in adults and children. In *in vitro* Bacterial Reverse Mutation (CHO/HGPRT Forward Mutation and Rat Lymphocyte Cytogenosomal Aberration assays) and *in vivo* Mouse Bone Marrow Micronucleus assay tests, fexofenadine hydrochloride revealed no evidence of mutagenicity. In rat fertility studies, dose-related reductions in implants and increases in post-implantation losses were observed at an oral dose of 150 mg/kg of terfenadine, which led to fexofenadine hydrochloride exposures that were approximately 3 times the exposure of the maximum recommended daily oral dose of fexofenadine hydrochloride in adults. **Pregnancy** **Teratogenic Effects: Category C.** There was no evidence of teratogenicity in rats or rabbits at oral doses of terfenadine up to 500 mg/kg (which led to fexofenadine exposures that were approximately 4 and 31.4 times, respectively, the exposure from the maximum recommended daily oral dose of fexofenadine in adults). There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in pregnant women. Fexofenadine should be used during pregnancy only if the potential benefit justifies the potential risk to the fetus. **Nonteratogenic Effects.** Dose-related decreases in pup weight gain and survival were observed in rats exposed to an oral dose of 150 mg/kg of terfenadine (approximately 3 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose of fexofenadine hydrochloride in adults based on comparison of fexofenadine hydrochloride AUCs). **Nursing Mothers** There are no adequate and well-controlled studies in women during lactation. Because many drugs are excreted in human milk, caution should be exercised when fexofenadine hydrochloride is administered to a nursing woman. **Pediatric Use** The recommended dose in patients 6 to 11 years of age is based on cross-study comparisons of the pharmacokinetics of ALLEGRA in adults and pediatric patients and on the safety profile of fexofenadine hydrochloride in both adult and pediatric patients at doses equal to or higher than the recommended doses. The safety of ALLEGRA tablets at a dose of 30 mg twice daily has been demonstrated in 488 pediatric patients 6 to 11 years of age in two placebo-controlled 2 week seasonal allergic rhinitis trials. The safety of ALLEGRA for the treatment of chronic idiopathic urticaria in patients 6 to 11 years of age is based on cross-study comparison of the pharmacokinetics of ALLEGRA in adult and pediatric patients and on the safety profile of fexofenadine in both adult and pediatric patients at doses equal to or higher than the recommended dose. The effectiveness of ALLEGRA for the treatment of seasonal allergic rhinitis in patients 6 to 11 years of age was demonstrated in one trial (n=411) in which ALLEGRA tablets 30 mg twice daily significantly reduced total symptom scores compared to placebo, along with extrapolation of demonstrated efficacy in patients ages 12 years and above and the pharmacokinetic comparisons in adults and children. The effectiveness of ALLEGRA for the treatment of chronic idiopathic urticaria in patients 6 to 11 years of age is based on extrapolation of the demonstrated efficacy of ALLEGRA in adults with this condition and the likelihood that the disease course, pathophysiology and the drug's effect are substantially similar in children to that of adult patients. Three clinical safety studies comparing 15 mg BID (n=85) and 30 mg BID (n=339) of an experimental formulation of fexofenadine to placebo (n=430), have been conducted in pediatric patients ages 6 months to 5 years. In general, fexofenadine hydrochloride was well tolerated in these studies. No unexpected adverse events were seen given the known safety profile of fexofenadine and likely adverse reactions for this patient population (see ADVERSE REACTIONS and CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). The safety and effectiveness of fexofenadine hydrochloride in pediatric patients under 6 years of age have not been established. **Geriatric Use** Clinical studies of ALLEGRA tablets and capsules did not include sufficient numbers of subjects aged 65 years and over to determine whether this population responds differently from younger patients. Other reported clinical experience has not identified differences in responses between the geriatric and younger patients. This drug is known to be substantially excreted by the kidney, and the risk of toxic reactions to this drug may be greater in patients with impaired renal function. Because elderly patients are more likely to have decreased renal function, care should be taken in dose selection, and may be useful to monitor renal function. See CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). **ADVERSE REACTIONS** **Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis Adults.** In placebo-controlled seasonal allergic rhinitis clinical trials in patients 12 years of age and older, which included 2461 patients receiving fexofenadine hydrochloride capsules at doses of 20 mg to 240 mg twice daily, adverse events were similar in fexofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients. All adverse events that were reported by greater than 1% of patients who received the recommended daily dose of fexofenadine hydrochloride (60 mg capsules twice daily), and that were more common with fexofenadine hydrochloride than placebo, are listed in Table 1. In a placebo-controlled clinical study in the United States which included 870 patients aged 12 years and older receiving fexofenadine hydrochloride tablets at doses of 120 or 180 mg once daily, adverse events were similar in fexofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients. Table 1 also lists adverse experiences that were reported by greater than 2% of patients treated with fexofenadine hydrochloride tablets at doses of 180 mg once daily and that were more common with fexofenadine hydrochloride than placebo. The incidence of adverse events, including drowsiness, was not dose-related and was similar across subgroups defined by age, gender, and race.

**Table 1**

**Adverse experiences in patients ages 12 years and older reported in placebo-controlled seasonal allergic rhinitis clinical trials in the United States**

**Twice daily dosing with fexofenadine capsules at rates of greater than 1%**

| *Adverse experience* | *Fexofenadine 60 mg twice daily n=679* | *Placebo twice daily n=671* |
|---|---|---|
| Viral infection, not flu | 2.2% | 1.5% |
| Nausea | 1.6% | 1.5% |
| Dysmenorrhea | 1.2% | 0.3% |
| Drowsiness | 1.0% | 0.9% |
| Dyspepsia | 1.0% | 0.6% |
| Fatigue | 1.0% | 0.9% |

**Once daily dosing with fexofenadine hydrochloride tablets at rates of greater than 2%**

| *Adverse experience* | *Fexofenadine 180 mg once daily n=362* | *Placebo n=293* |
|---|---|---|
| Headache | 10.6% | 7.5% |
| Upper Respiratory Tract Infection | 3.2% | 3.1% |
| Back Pain | 2.8% | 1.4% |

The frequency and magnitude of laboratory abnormalities were similar in fexofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients. **Pediatric.** Table 2 lists adverse experiences in patients aged 6 to 11 years of age which were reported by greater than 2% of patients treated with fexofenadine hydrochloride tablets at a dose of 30 mg twice daily in placebo-controlled seasonal allergic rhinitis studies in the United States and Canada that were more common with fexofenadine hydrochloride than placebo.

**Table 2**

**Adverse experiences reported in placebo-controlled seasonal allergic rhinitis studies in pediatric patients ages 6 to 11 in the United States and Canada at rates of greater than 2%**

| *Adverse experience* | *Fexofenadine 30 mg twice daily n=209* | *Placebo n=239* |
|---|---|---|
| Headache | 7.2% | 6.6% |
| Accidental injury | 2.9% | 1.3% |
| Coughing | 3.8% | 1.7% |
| Fever | 2.4% | 0.9% |
| Pain | 2.4% | 0.4% |
| Otitis Media | 2.4% | 1.0% |
| Upper Respiratory Tract Infection | 4.3% | 1.3% |

Three clinical safety studies in 645 children ages 6 months to 5 years comparing 15 mg BID (n=85) and 30 mg BID (n=339) of an experimental formulation of fexofenadine to placebo (n=430) have been conducted. In general, fexofenadine hydrochloride was well tolerated in these studies. No unexpected adverse events were seen given the known safety profile of fexofenadine and likely adverse reactions for this patient population (See PRECAUTIONS Pediatric Use). **Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria** Adverse events reported in patients 12 years of age and older in placebo-controlled chronic idiopathic urticaria studies were similar to those reported in placebo-controlled seasonal allergic rhinitis studies. In placebo-controlled chronic idiopathic urticaria clinical trials, which included 726 patients 12 years of age and older receiving fexofenadine hydrochloride tablets at doses of 20 to 240 mg twice daily, adverse events were similar in fexofenadine hydrochloride and placebo-treated patients. Table 3 lists adverse experiences in patients ages 12 years and older which were reported by greater than 2% of patients treated with fexofenadine hydrochloride 60 mg tablets twice daily in controlled clinical studies in the United States and Canada, and that were more common with fexofenadine hydrochloride than placebo. The safety of fexofenadine hydrochloride in the treatment of chronic idiopathic urticaria in pediatric patients 6 to 11 years of age is based on the safety profile of fexofenadine hydrochloride in adults and adolescent patients at doses equal to or higher than the recommended dose (see Pediatric Use).

**Table 3**

**Adverse experiences reported in patients 12 years and older in placebo-controlled chronic idiopathic urticaria studies in the United States and Canada at rates of greater than 2%**

| *Adverse experience* | *Fexofenadine 60 mg twice daily n=136* | *Placebo n=173* |
|---|---|---|
| Back Pain | 2.2% | 1.1% |
| Sinusitis | 2.2% | 1.1% |
| Dizziness | 2.2% | 0.6% |
| Drowsiness | 2.2% | 0.0% |

Events that have been reported during controlled clinical trials involving seasonal allergic rhinitis and chronic idiopathic urticaria patients with incidences less than 1% and similar to placebo and have been rarely reported during postmarketing surveillance include: insomnia, nervousness, and sleep disorders or paroniria. In rare cases, rash, urticaria, pruritus and hypersensitivity reactions with manifestations such as angioedema, chest tightness, dyspnea, flushing and systemic anaphylaxis have been reported. **OVERDOSAGE** Reports of fexofenadine hydrochloride overdose have been infrequent and contain limited information. However, dizziness, drowsiness, and dry mouth have been reported. Single doses of fexofenadine hydrochloride up to 800 mg (six normal volunteers at this dose level), and doses up to 690 mg twice daily for 1 month (three normal volunteers at this dose level) or 240 mg once daily for 1 year (34 normal volunteers at this dose level) were administered without the development of clinically significant adverse events as compared to placebo. In the event of overdose, consider standard measures to remove any unabsorbed drug. Symptomatic and supportive treatment is recommended. Hemodialysis did not effectively remove fexofenadine hydrochloride from blood. 11% removed following terfenadine administration. No deaths occurred at oral doses of fexofenadine hydrochloride up to 5000 mg/kg in mice (>1000 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults and 200 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in children based on mg/m²), and up to 5000 mg/kg in rats (>333 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults and 400 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in children based on mg/m²). Additionally, no clinical signs of toxicity or gross pathological findings were observed. In dogs, no evidence of toxicity was observed at oral doses up to 2000 mg/kg (>300 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in adults and >500 times the maximum recommended daily oral dose in children based on mg/m²). **DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION** **Seasonal Allergic Rhinitis Adults and Children 12 Years and Older.** The recommended dose of ALLEGRA is 60 mg twice daily, or 180 mg once daily. A dose of 60 mg once daily is recommended as the starting dose in patients with decreased renal function (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). **Children 6 to 11 Years.** The recommended dose of ALLEGRA is 30 mg twice daily. A dose of 30 mg once daily is recommended as the starting dose in pediatric patients with decreased renal function (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). **Chronic Idiopathic Urticaria Adults and Children 12 Years and Older.** The recommended dose of ALLEGRA is 60 mg twice daily. A dose of 60 mg once daily is recommended as the starting dose in patients with decreased renal function (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY). **Children 6 to 11 Years.** The recommended dose of ALLEGRA is 30 mg twice daily. A dose of 30 mg once daily is recommended as the starting dose in pediatric patients with decreased renal function (see CLINICAL PHARMACOLOGY).

Please see product circular for full prescribing information.

**Rx only**

Rev. May 2003a

Brief Summary

Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Kansas City, MO 64137, USA

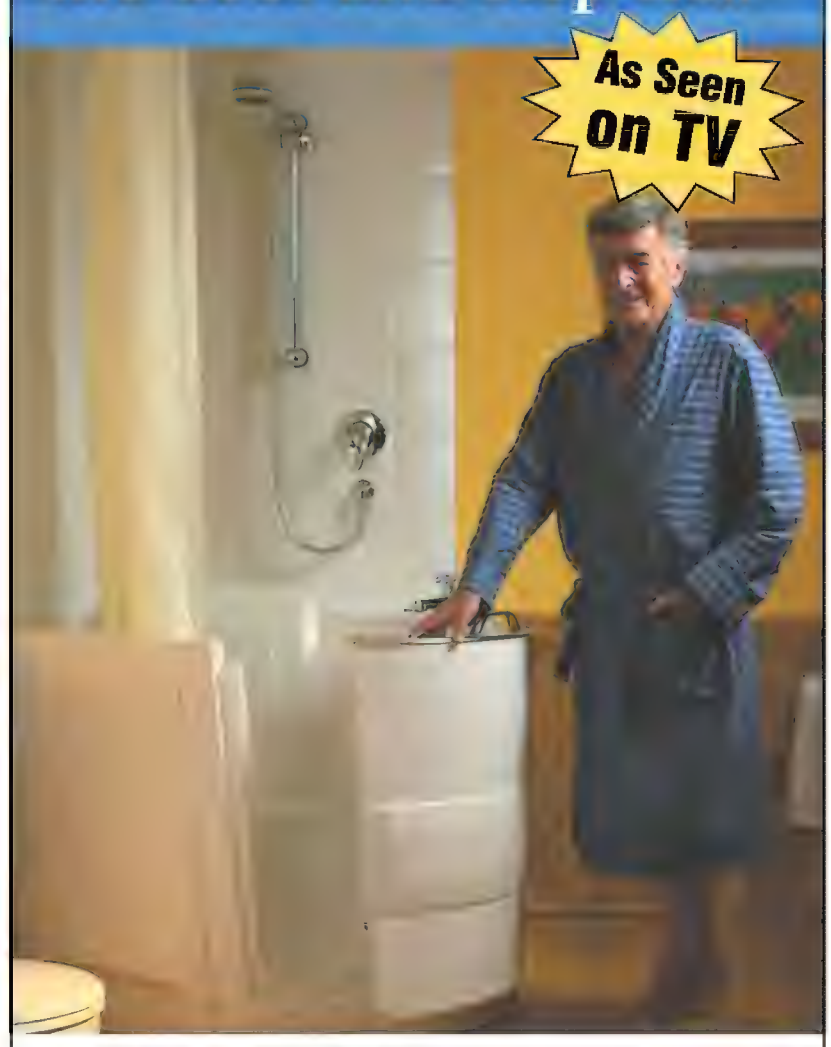
US Patents 4,254,129; 5,375,693; 5,578,610

© 2003 Aventis Pharmaceuticals Inc.

www.allegra.com

a-fmay03a-B-Ar


"It's so easy, I just open the door and step in..."




...I really used to enjoy having a bath

but I realized as I got older that the fear of slipping, or the effort of pulling myself up after I had finished bathing was becoming a real problem...

Premier Bathrooms has the largest range of walk-in bath tubs in the country, and buying one helped me regain my independence.

Premier BATHROOMS

For further details or to receive your FREE brochure

CALL NOW TOLL FREE

1-800-578-2899

Remember -

Premier's Walk-In Bath Tubs give you independence, security and confidence to enjoy your bathroom again.

# Hungarian Rhapsody

*In a 70-year career that began in Budapest, André Kertész pioneered modern photography, as a new exhibition makes clear* ~ BY TERENCE MONMANEY

"I saw that it was perfect," Kertész recalled of photographing a Hungarian dancer in 1926.

ESTATE OF ANDRÉ KERTÉSZ AND THE JEU DE PAUME / FRENCH MINISTRY FOR CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION

SEVERAL ANDRÉ KERTÉSZ PHOTOGRAPHS, including his witty picture of a dancer all akimbo on a sofa, are instantly recognizable. But a striking thing about his work, which is the subject of an exhibition at the National Gallery of Art, is that even the photographs you've never seen before look familiar.

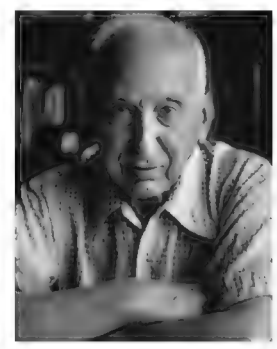
Sunlit chairs casting nifty shadows on a sidewalk in (of course) Paris, commuters isolated on a train platform outside New York City, a woman wavily reflected in a carnival mirror—these and other Kertész photographs sort of disappoint at first. They seem like clever ideas that anyone with a camera and a passing knowledge of the craft's history would be tempted to try. But it turns out that he *is* the craft's history. His pictures seem familiar not because he borrowed others' tricks—rather, generations of photographers borrowed his. And still do.

# He had every reason to expect that his rise would continue.

"He was extremely influential," says Sarah Greenough, the National Gallery's curator of photographs and the organizer of the exhibition, the first major Kertész retrospective in 20 years. The territory that Kertész first explored, she says, is now "widely known and seen."

Kertész was born in Budapest in 1894, and by the time he died in New York City 91 years later, he'd been in and out of fashion a few times. He made his name in Paris in the 1920s, and the long American chapter of his life, beginning in 1936, would have been tragic if not for a comeback at the end. In his late 60s, he started making new photographs, reprinting old ones, publishing books and polishing his faded reputation. Now he's golden. In 1997, a picture he made in 1926—a less than 4 x 4-inch still life of a pipe and eyeglasses belonging to the Dutch painter Piet Mondrian—sold at auction for $376,500, among the highest prices ever paid for a photograph.

One of three children of his bookseller father and café-owner mother, Kertész had no particular aim until photography grabbed his interest as a teenager. In 1914, with World War I under way, he was drafted into the Austro-Hungarian Army; wounded in action in 1915, he recovered and traveled with the army through Eastern and Central Europe. The first image of his to receive recognition—he entered a Hungarian magazine's photo contest in 1916—was a portrait of himself picking lice from his uniform. He'd stumbled into a then-new way of documenting the world, that of the sensitive observer with an eye for, as he later put it, "little things."



Not that his ambition was small. After the war, he worked with one of his brothers photographing Budapest and the countryside before departing in 1925 to the center of the art universe. In Paris he flowered, capturing droll street scenes (a worker pulls a wagon with a statue in the seat), shooting the city at night and advising Brassaï, he of the Paris demimonde, how to do the same. He befriended Chagall and influenced the younger Henri Cartier-Bresson. "We all owe something to Kertész," Cartier-Bresson once said.

The dancer in his celebrated photograph was Magda Förstner, a Hungarian cabaret performer whom he ran into in Paris. He photographed her in 1926 in the studio of the Modernist artist István Beothy, whose sculpture stands near her. "She threw herself on the couch, and I took it at once," Kertész later recalled. (A review of published sources has turned up no word of what became of Förstner.) *Satiric Dancer* embodies the jazzy exuberance of Paris in the 1920s, or at least our romantic idea of it. Beyond that, says the photographer Sylvia Plachy, who is based in New York City and was a friend of Kertész's, "it's an amazing composition. He caught that particular moment when everything is in perfect harmony."

Kertész had every reason to expect his rise would continue in New York. But he despised the commercial photography that he had crossed the Atlantic to do, and soon World War II stranded him and his wife, Elizabeth, in the States. The 15 or so years he spent photographing rich people's homes for *House and Garden*, he once said, made him consider suicide. From his apartment window he'd begun to take photographs of Washington Square Park, including elegant snowscapes. A solo exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art in 1964 helped rescue him at age 70, reviving the American public's interest in his photographs and his own desire to work. (Elizabeth died in 1977.)

In 1984, about a year before he died, Kertész made a black-and-white photograph of interior doors reflected in a distorting mirror—a "mysterious and evocative image" that may have "represented his exit from the world," Robert Gurbo writes in the National Gallery exhibition catalog, *André Kertész* (coauthored by Greenough and Sarah Kennel). Far from copying other photographers, Plachy says, Kertész was "creative to the end."

*Photography fan* TERENCE MONMANEY *is the executive editor of* SMITHSONIAN.

Kertész (in his 80s, c. 1975) made his name in Paris (*Under the Eiffel Tower*, 1929).

MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK / GETTY IMAGES; ESTATE OF ANDRÉ KERTÉSZ AND THE JEU DE PAUME / FRENCH MINISTRY FOR CULTURE AND COMMUNICATION

For Fernando Quijano, the road from Bogotá, Colombia, to professor of economics at Dickinson State University has been a long one. Arriving in America with nothing but his dreams, Fernando looked in vain for work. When a friend suggested he join the U.S. Army, Fernando didn't hesitate. The Army taught Fernando to focus on his goals and to work hard to achieve them. He became a citizen while still in uniform. And he's been setting and achieving more goals ever since. As an expert marksman, Fernando could bull's-eye targets at 50-300 meters. In life, Fernando is right on target as well.

**FOCUS**

– FERNANDO QUIJANO
UNITED STATES ARMY 1982-1987

The qualities you acquire while in the Military are qualities that stay with you forever.℠
**To learn more, visit todaysmilitary.com/see**

TODAY'S MILITARY
Active • Guard • Reserve
See it for what it really is.℠

# The Shirt Off His Back

*Jerry Seinfeld's silly, frilly prop takes its place in television history* ~ BY OWEN EDWARDS

[ *"Seinfeld" Puffy Shirt, 1993* ]
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY

LET ME GET SOMETHING out of the way: I'm a bit of a hypocrite. For years I've disdained Trekkies, those odd souls who obsess over the adventures of Captain Kirk and the crew of the *Enterprise* on "Star Trek," the folks who stick pointed Vulcan ears to the sides of their heads and attend conventions in too-tight leotards, who learn to speak Klingon and bark "Beam me up, Scottie" at each other. How can they be so slavishly devoted to what is, after all, just a television show? Hey, you with the fake phaser, get a life!

Yet I never question my own taste and intelligence as I sit, night after night, watching reruns of the sitcom "Seinfeld," moving my lips to all the choice lines of a nine-year run that turned me into a Seinfeldian as avid as any Trekkie. By now, I have an encyclopedic knowledge of the plots, places and punch lines that made the show as enduring a part of classic television culture as "The Honeymooners" and "I Love Lucy." When I find myself among fellow Seinfeldians, I know I can get laughs simply by repeating certain catch phrases, or referring to key moments, mysterious to the uninitiated:

Costume designer Charmaine Simmons conceived Jerry's foppish garb to be both "uncomfortable" and "unwearable."

JEFF TINSLEY / NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY, S.I.; CASTLE ROCK ENTERTAINMENT

# laid-back business dinner on the 52nd floor of Park Hyatt Tokyo: $359

(thinking I love my job: priceless)

© 2004 MasterCard International Incorporated

Working away from the office can do wonders for your perspective. So MasterCard® is accepted most everywhere your job takes you, from the world's finest hotels to late-night take-out places once you're back at your desk. there are some things money can't buy. for everything else there's MasterCard.™

MasterCard

## "It looks funny and it sounds funny, and that's a good combination for a joke."

Jerry Seinfeld (at the Museum of American History presentation on November 18) observed: "This might be the first joke inducted into the Smithsonian Institution."

"No soup for you!" "Oh, the humanity!" Bubble Boy. "How could anybody not like him?" JFK's golf clubs. Elaine's Christmas party dance. "They're real, and they're spectacular." And perhaps the most resonant reference of all, the puffy shirt.

OK, maybe you never stoop lower than "Masterpiece Theatre" or "NOVA," never spend 30 minutes with anything less edifying than "60 Minutes." Or somehow you missed this episode—and its by now countless reruns. So you may be forgiven for asking—*What* puffy shirt? An explanation, complete with plot synopsis, follows shortly. But first a word about why said odd-sounding vestment is appearing in these hallowed pages. The puffy shirt, one of the most memorable props in one of the funniest half-hours of "Seinfeld," was recently donated to the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History by the man who wore it with such memorable unenthusiasm, Jerry Seinfeld.

Here, in compressed form, is the Episode 66 plotline, written by the show's co-creator, Larry David, and airing the first time a dozen years ago: Seinfeld's weird neighbor Kramer has a new girlfriend, described by Jerry and his friend Elaine as a "low talker"—only Kramer can actually hear what she's saying. At a restaurant, Kramer announces that the new girlfriend, a fledgling clothing designer, has just created a puffy shirt "like the pirates used to wear." Later, Elaine mentions that Jerry is going to be on the "Today Show" to promote a benefit she's chairing for the Goodwill charity. Kramer leaves the table for a few minutes, and Jerry, unable to hear what Kramer's new girlfriend is saying, just nods and says yes to everything she says to him. The next day, Kramer tells a stunned Seinfeld that he agreed to wear the puffy shirt for his "Today Show" interview with Bryant Gumbel. Kramer reassures him that he'll look like a pirate. "But I don't want to be a pirate," Jerry whines. Kramer tells him that, in anticipation of the promised plug, stores all over New York City have agreed to stock the shirts. Thus the next morning Jerry arrives on the set wearing the puffy shirt. Barely suppressing his laughter, Gumbel can't talk about anything but the shirt, what a fascinating look it is, how being a "pirate comedian" could be a whole new thing in Seinfeld's career. Jerry is miserable and finally blurts out that it's not his shirt and that he thinks it's "the stupidest shirt I've ever seen." In a classic "Seinfeld" domino effect, the shirt's designer, lurking in the dressing room, flies into a rage, Jerry's friend George, arriving late, laughs at the shirt, gets a shove from the girlfriend and accidentally picks up a hot iron that Kramer had used to press the shirt. George thus ruins his new career as a hand model (don't ask), Kramer's new girlfriend loses her store contracts, the hapless Kramer breaks up with her because he can't be with someone whose life is in disarray, Jerry's benefit performance runs aground on a reef of heckled pirate jokes, Elaine is kicked off the benefit committee and hundreds of unsold puffy shirts are given away . . . to Goodwill. The next day, on the street, Jerry meets two homeless men, each wearing a puffy shirt. "Spare a little change for an old buccaneer?" one of them asks. At which moment Jerry comments that it really isn't such a bad-looking shirt after all. Fade to black.

The actual, infamously unfashionable puffy shirt is now displayed alongside such showbiz icons as Dorothy's ruby slippers from *The Wizard of Oz* and "Sesame Street"'s Kermit the Frog. "Seinfeld" ran for nine seasons, with seemingly countless plots, bits and set pieces. So why was this the item chosen for posterity? The most likely reason is that Seinfeld was famously a show "about nothing," where no thing mattered as much as ordinary situations that went hilariously awry. There weren't all that many notable objects. George's briefly used hairpiece (don't ask) might have been given Smithsonian status, or even the stage set for Kramer's faux talk show (really, don't ask). But much to Jerry Seinfeld's surprise, the outlandish, retro swashbuckling shirt—despite its lack of a buckle or even much noticeable swash—has improbably come to stand for the sitcom's sense of manic, often surreal hilarity. As Seinfeld said at the November 18 donation ceremony in Washington, D.C., "It looks funny and it sounds funny, and that's a good combination for a joke."

*OWEN EDWARDS is a freelance writer based in San Francisco, California.*

JEFF TINSLEY / NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN HISTORY, S.I.

## THE POST OFFICE. CONVENIENTLY LOCATED ON A COMPUTER NEAR YOU.

Just about anything you can do at the Post Office,™ you can do from your office with usps.com. Pay postage, print shipping labels, track and confirm package deliveries, order stamps, even request a letter carrier to pick up your packages. So go to usps.com. It's one more way the U.S. Postal Service® is working for you.

UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE®

©2005 United States Postal Service. Eagle symbol is a registered trademark of the United States Postal Service.
Sales and Service Associate Juvy Bodestyne, San Mateo, CA

usps.com

# Advertiser Directory

**For information, circle the corresponding number(s) on the attached card, and mail or fax response to (585) 321-0043. Visit *Smithsonian* Reader Service ON-LINE at www.smithreader.com**

## Travel

**1. Air New Zealand.** More flights to the South Pacific than any other airline.
**2. Arkansas.** Introducing the Indoor-Outdoor Vacation, brought to you by Arkansas, The Natural State. Information at Arkansas.com
**3. Bike Riders.** Distinctive bicycle and walking vacations featuring small groups and 4 & 5 star hotels. www.bikeriderstours.com
**4. Cosmos.** Cosmos gives you the best value in travel. For a FREE brochure visit us online at www.cosmos.com
**5. Cross-Culture.** Travel with a difference; foreign travel programs designed for travelers rather than tourists. www.crossculturеinc.com
**6. Delta Queen Steamboat.** Steamboatin' luxurious river cruise and adventure week vacations. Great discounts. Contact Travel Agent.
**7. Expedia.com.** With the most travel options anywhere, you can make your ideal trip a reality on Expedia.
**8. Finnish Tourist Board.** Experience the historical 13th century Finland King's Road between the old northern capitals. www.finlandkingsroad.com
**9. Globus.** No one opens more doors to Europe than Globus. For a FREE brochure visit our web site www.globusjourneys.com
**10. The Great State of Texas.** For your FREE Texas State Travel Guide, visit www.TravelTex.com
**11. Holland America Line.** Offering the widest selection of cruise destinations & itineraries worldwide. Visit www.hollandamerica.com
**12. Idaho.** Nowhere near ordinary. Visit the Idaho travel website www.visitidaho.org for free travel guide.
**13. Kiawah Island.** Great Beach Vacations. Free 32-Page Color Guides. Surf our webguides today. kiawahtimes.com
**14. Louisiana Tourism.** Do less sightseeing and more sightdoing. For your free Louisiana tour guide, visit Louisianatravel.com
**15. Monograms.** Savor independent European travel and personal experiences with Monograms. For a FREE brochure visit www.monogramstravel.com
**16. New Brunswick, Canada.** Discover the Bay of Fundy, home of the World's Highest Tides! www.TourismNewBrunswick.ca
**17. New Mexico.** Land of Enchantment. Free vacation guide. Visit www.newmexico.org
**18. New Orleans.** Get your FREE Good Times Guide to New Orleans, with over $2,400 in coupons! NewOrleansOnline.com
**19. Newfoundland & Labrador, Canada.** Arrive in anticipation. Leave in awe of the size, diversity and intensity of your encounters with the people and the place. www.gov.nl.ca/tourism
**20. Nova Scotia Tourism.** Come to Nova Scotia. Visit www.novascotia.com/smithsonian for your FREE 400-page Doers' and Dreamers' Travel Guide.
**21. Royal Plantation.** With 2 staff to every guest, this all-oceanview all-suite hotel is Jamaica's only member of the Leading Small Hotels of the World.
**22. San Antonio Convention and Visitors Bureau.** Few cities will capture your heart and excite your imagination like San Antonio. From the Alamo to theme parks like SeaWorld San Antonio and Six Flags Fiesta Texas, there's a sensationally good time waiting for everyone.
**23. Scotland.** Scotland's rich cultured heritage is celebrated in museums, theaters, vibrant festivals, pubs and street corners. www.ToScotland.com
**24. Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures.** Explore England's Castles, Palaces and Countryside on a 10 day learning vacation. www.smithsonianjourneystravel adventures.org
**25. South Carolina's Treasured Coast.** Discover a coastal treasure! Visit South Carolina's Treasured Coast. For more information, visit treasuredcoast.com
**26. Tauck World Discovery.** Premium escorted travel to 44 countries and all 7 continents. Learn more at www.tauck.com/smithsonian
**27. Tourism Australia.** Hop around Australia on us with the Qantas Airpass from $999, plus three flights within Australia.
**28. Travel Concepts International.** Small groups. Exotic cultural tours. Traveling solo? You'll love the company! www.tci-travel.com
**29. Travel Egypt.** www.travelegypt.us Everything you need to know.
**30. Travel Oregon.** Travel Oregon magazine offers readers firsthand accounts of great vacation opportunities. Visit www.traveloregon.com
**31. Wyoming.** Yellowstone, the Grand Tetons, Devils Tower and more. Find adventure. wyomingtourism.org
**A. ALL OF THE ABOVE CATEGORY**

## Apparel

**32. Beau Ties Ltd.** Hundreds of silk bow ties, as well as ascots, cummerbunds and scarves. Free catalog. www.beautiesltd.com

## Automotive

**33. MINI Cooper.** LET'S MOTOR.™ Visit MINIUSA.COM to build your own MINI Cooper or MINI Cooper S.
**34. Toyota.** To learn more about Toyota's U.S. operations please visit us at www.toyota.com/usa
**B. ALL OF THE ABOVE CATEGORY**

## Books

**35. Daedalus Books & Music.** Best Browse in Bargain books. Quality selection in all subjects and genres. www.salebooks.com
**36. Edward R. Hamilton, Bookseller.** Free Bargain Book Catalog offers quality hardcover books from $2.95. Huge selection. www.erhbooks.com/fnx
**C. ALL OF THE ABOVE CATEGORY**

## Business/Corporate

**37. United States Postal Service.** Go to usps.com. It's one more way the U.S. Postal Service® is working for you.

## Home

**38. Endless Pools.** The Treadmill for Swimmers. Easy to install, inside or out. Free DVD or Video. www.EndlessPools.com
**39. Replacements, LTD.** Register for FREE pattern printouts (with prices) on your china, crystal, silver, and collectibles. www.replacements.com
**D. ALL OF THE ABOVE CATEGORY**

## Miscellaneous

**40. Cesar® .** Sophisticated food for sophisticated dogs.™ Visit us at cesar.com
**41. David Morgan.** Celtic and Northwest Indian jewelry, Akubra hats from Australia, Filson, Bosca, and much more. www.davidmorgan.com
**42. DeadMenTellNoTales.com.** Pirate flags, music, toys, books, jewelry, party goods, posters, clothing, treasure and much more. www.DeadMenTellNoTales.com
**43. Hilton Head Health Institute.** Get serious about weight loss at Hilton Head Health Institute.
**44. Karkula Galleries.** Primitive wood bowls, wood sculpture, and carvings plus original paintings. Visit our website: www.karkulagalleries.com
**45. Stewart Home School.** Special care, education and community for the intellectually disabled child and adult. 850-acre bluegrass campus. www.stewarthome.com

## Scotland

**23. Scotland.** Scotland's rich cultured heritage is celebrated in museums, theaters, vibrant festivals, pubs and street corners. www.ToScotland.com

**46. Today's Military.** The perfect environment for developing the essential qualities for a successful life. www.todaysmilitary.com
**47. Upton Tea Imports.** Premium loose leaf tea: 350 varieties including *Wall Street Journal's* "Best Overall" Earl Grey. www.uptontea.com
**E. ALL OF THE ABOVE CATEGORY**

## Real Estate

**48. Fearrington Village.** Exciting country living near Chapel Hill, North Carolina. www.fearrington.com

## Spring Catalog Showcase

**49. American Canadian Caribbean Line.** Yacht-style exploration of historic waterways. Cruise America by smallship. Memorable camaraderie. Casual. Unique itineraries. www.accl-smallships.com
**50. Casco Bay Wool Works.** Fine handcrafted outerwear. Rain Wrap made from Italian Microfiber. Wool capes & shawls also available. Made in Maine. CascoBayWoolWorks.com
**51. Deck House.** We are the architects and designers, project managers and craftpeople who listen. Expertise, experience, and refined building systems. Order our $20 design portfolio today: www.deckhouse.com
**52. Lighthouse Depot.** Free lighthouse catalog. 72 pages of lighthouse memorabilia, home decorative accessories and themed apparel. www.lhdepot.com
**53. MacKenzie-Childs.** MacKenzie-Childs' distinctive handmade, hand-painted tableware, furniture, textiles, and decorative accessories are now available through our catalogue. www.mackenzie-childs.com Source Code: 0520.
**54. Masters' Collection.** Art reproductions on canvas in museum quality frames. 92 page catalog. FREE.
**55. Sierra Traditions® for Men.** Save 35-70% on distinguished name brands from around the world. FREE catalog. sierratradingpost.com
**F. ALL OF THE ABOVE CATEGORY**
**G. ALL ADVERTISERS 1–55**

**Offer Expires May 31, 2005.**

# Where East Met (Wild) West

*Excavations in a legendary gold rush town uncover the unsung labors of Chinese immigrants on the frontier* ~ BY RAFFI KHATCHADOURIAN

Under Deadwood's streets lie the remnants of a prosperous Chinatown (below).

STAN FELLOWS; ADAMS MUSEUM AND HOUSE, DEADWOOD, SD

IN A SMALL LAB on the outskirts of Rapid City, South Dakota, Donn Ivey, an itinerant researcher whose business card reads "Have Trowel, Will Travel," swiveled in his chair and peered into a small pile of dirt. With his left hand, he adjusted his trucker's cap. With his right, he nudged a pair of stainless-steel forceps into the dark earth. "I found a pair of tweezers, right there," he said, pulling out a rusted, V-shaped strip of metal and carefully putting it aside.

Last summer, Ivey drove his RV to this lab, run by the state's Archaeological Research Center, to participate in the excavation of a 19th-century Chinese neighborhood buried under the fabled Wild West boomtown of Deadwood (once home to Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane). State archaeologists have been working at the Deadwood site, in the Black Hills 50 miles northeast of Rapid City, for three years. In August they closed down the dig and shipped the final box-loads of bone, wood, metal and glass to the state's lab for analysis.

The excavation is South Dakota's largest: a half-million-dollar project that began in May 2001, after a developer announced plans to tear down a former restaurant to build a parking lot. The city of Deadwood is a National Historic Landmark, so an archaeological assessment had to precede the demolition. When researchers examined the property, they realized that the Chinese residents, who first arrived in the frontier town in 1876, had left behind thousands of significant artifacts. The discovery has helped fuel interest in Chinese-American history, already the subject of recent books and a PBS documentary. Even HBO's gritty period drama "Deadwood" uses the city's Chinatown as an important setting.

Inside the Rapid City lab, located in an office park behind a hardware store, archaeologists are sifting through the city's turbulent past. A table near Ivey's desk displayed newly labeled specimens, including two tattered fedoras, an opium smoking kit and an 1860 Army-issue Colt 44. On Ivey's lap rested a 19th-century Sears catalog, to help him identify objects. "The Chinese would never shave," he said, studying the metal strips on his tray. "They would pluck their hair. Tweezers were also used for smoking opium, but this one looks like it was for grooming."

Deadwood's Chinatown, like so many others throughout the West, was built during one of the country's great gold rushes. In 1874, Civil War general George Armstrong Custer scouted the Dakota Territory and observed, "It has not required an expert to find gold in the Black Hills." Prospectors, adventurers and outlaws soon flooded the region. The dirt trail into Deadwood was beaten hard by "ten thousand venturesome, excited gold seekers," one pioneer wrote. The first settlement was a jumble of canvas tents, clapboard shops and saloons clustered near a muddy creek.

The several hundred Chinese immigrants who made the journey to this lawless frontier were no strangers to gold fever. In the vil-

lages of southern China, people called America "Gold Mountain," a place to find one's fortune. The California gold rush of 1849 had triggered America's earliest wave of Chinese immigration, with some 66,000 people, mostly men, arriving over the next decade. (About half of them stayed.) Chinese workers pursued opportunities eastward into Nevada, Montana, Wyoming and elsewhere. In 1870, they made up nearly 30 percent of the Idaho Territory's population.

By the time the Chinese began migrating to Deadwood, most had learned to negotiate the Wild West's fierce rivalries and racism. White miners held deep prejudices against the Chinese, and many Chinese chose to avoid the highly contested world of gold digging in favor of heavy labor or service work. During the 1860s, at least one out of every six Chinese immigrants living in the United States worked on railroad construction; others became cooks, farmers, merchants, blacksmiths and innkeepers. In the early days of the Black Hills gold rush, more than 100 labored as laundrymen in and around Deadwood—a monopoly that earned them the title "knights of the washtub" from one contemporary newspaper.

The fortunes of Deadwood's Chinatown grew along with the town. Locals soon took to calling the Black Hills "the richest 100 square miles on earth." The boom eventually generated a billion dollars in gold. But by 1918, with the town's major gold deposits tapped out, Deadwood's economy went into a sharp decline. The Chinese left for other parts of America or returned to China; by 1935 none remained.

Barely any serious attention was given to the history of Deadwood's Chinese community until recently, says Rose Estep Fosha, director of the excavation. At the Rapid City lab, she spreads out an old insurance map across her cluttered desk. "We've got here an emporium, a gaming house, three homes, a boarding house, a bakery, hay barns and a laundry," she says. "The gaming house and emporium are the only buildings still standing."

During the dig, archaeologists carved a web of trenches—some as deep as nine feet—across an eighth-of-a-mile stretch of land along Main Street. With shovels and brushes, they uncovered old stone and brick foundations of Chinatown's lost buildings, and traced interior partitions and floors, including some made from hand-hewed wood.

## The Black Hills were "the richest 100 square miles on earth."

Among items the archaeologists unearthed were a toothbrush and a gaming die (below). The artifacts now repose in 630 boxes.

The many artifacts they unearthed are now kept in 630 large boxes in Rapid City, where Fosha's team is cataloging them. "For every year in the field, it takes two to three years to sort through everything," she says.

So far, the archaeologists' tentative findings underscore the influence of Western culture on Deadwood's Chinese: French cleavers are buried beside Asian-style spoons, beer bottles beside porcelain jugs for rice wine, gambling dice beside mahjong tiles. Deadwood had its share of ethnic tension; in the 1870s, whites called for limits on Chinese immigration. Some historians, though, believe that relations between whites and the Chinese were better in the Black Hills than elsewhere in the West. "What makes Deadwood stand out is that the Chinese were able to achieve economic mobility," says Liping Zhu, a historian at Eastern Washington University in Cheney, Washington. Local papers editorialized against national anti-Chinese laws, and whites purchased Chinese lotto tickets—an act of trust, since the tickets were in Chinese.

Zhu, who is writing a book on Chinese immigrants in the Black Hills, isn't yet sure why they fared so well. But Eileen French, a researcher who scours local archives for clues to the town's past, speculates that one pioneering Chinese immigrant helped ease tensions. Fee Lee Wong arrived in the Black Hills in 1876 as a cook and, according to an oral history taken from his descendants, was traveling in a convoy of miners when they were attacked by outlaws. Wong fought well, and for his bravery the miners awarded him two mining claims. He sold one for $75,000 and would become one of Deadwood's leading businessmen—he owned the emporium and gaming house—and he worked as a broker between the white and Chinese communities.

Wong died in 1921 while visiting China. His family in Deadwood soon left, along with the rest of the Chinese community. "But the town still celebrates Chinese New Year," Fosha added as she stood before Wong's abandoned brick emporium on a recent trip to Deadwood. She hopes to excavate the building this year. "Look at that," she said, gazing at a set of washed-out white letters that read "provisions" painted above the door. She adjusted her sunglasses and fell silent for a moment. "I want archaeology to come alive in this project," Fosha added. "These people had names. They had faces. These people were alive."

*RAFFI KHATCHADOURIAN is a writer based in New York City.*

ADAMS MUSEUM AND HOUSE (2)

# CULTURE SPOTTER.COM

MAY - AUGUST 2005

Welcome to CultureSpotter.com, a monthly listing of some of the most interesting cultural events around the globe. *(Dates subject to change)*

**For more information, visit www.culturespotter.com.**

May 5 - 28

**KUNSTEN FESTIVAL DES ARTS**
Brussels, Belgium
www.kfda.be/front/index.html

May 11 - June 5

**REYKJAVÍK ARTS FESTIVAL**
Reykjavík, Iceland
http://artfest.is/default.asp?lang_id=en

May 25 - June 5

**BERGEN FESTSPILLE**
Bergen, Norway
www.festspillene.no/eng/index.php

June 16 - 24

**INTI RAYMI**
Cusco, Peru
www.infoperu.com/peru/eng/cusco/raymi1.html

June 9 - 12

**CHICAGO BLUES FESTIVAL**
Chicago, IL
www.ci.chi.il.us/specialevents

July 6 - 17

**RUNNING OF THE BULLS/ FESTIVAL OF SAN FERMIN**
Pamplona, Spain
www.pamplona.net

July 27 - Aug. 6

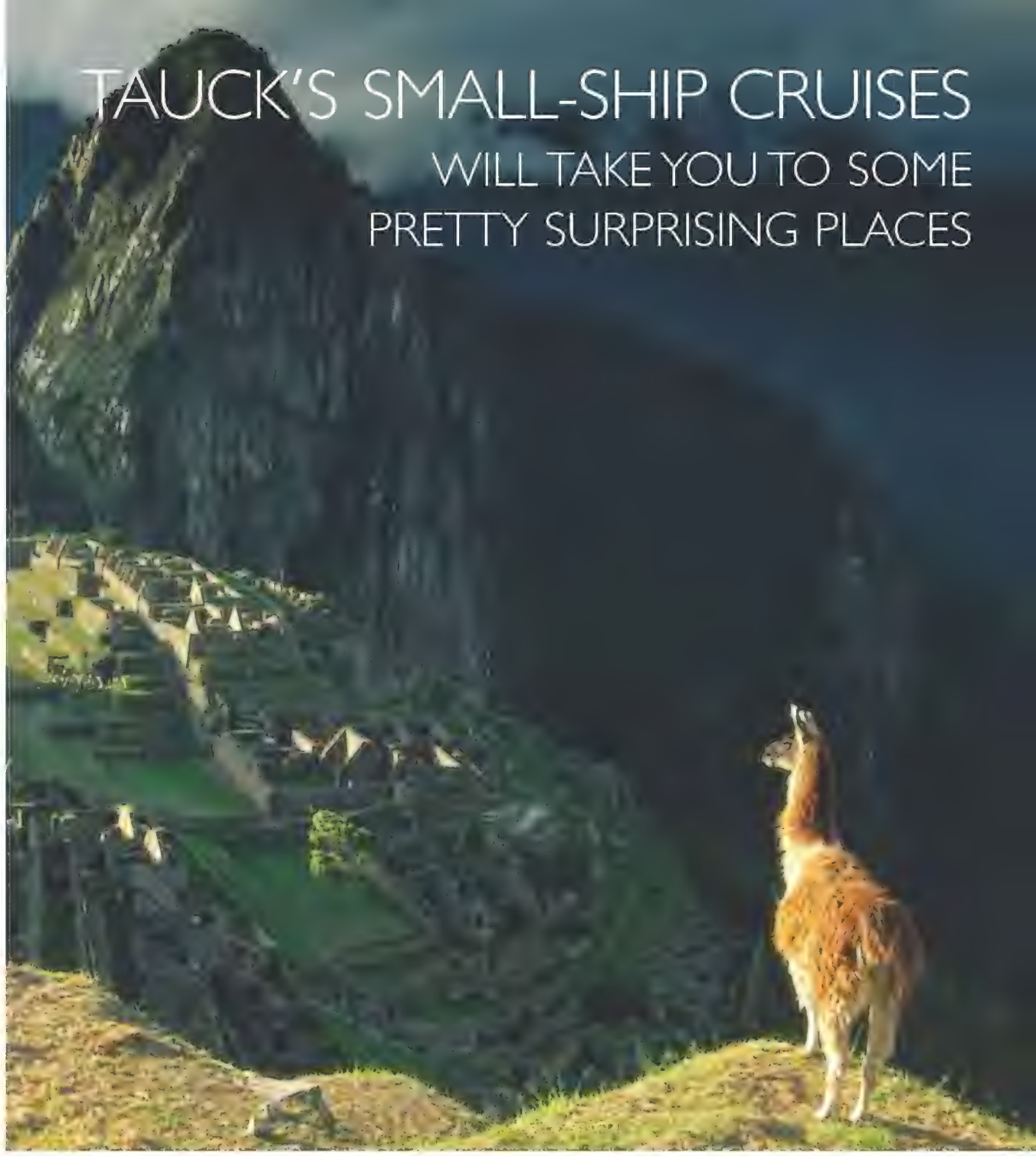
**CELEBRATION OF LIGHT**
Vancouver, BC, Canada
www.celebration-of-light.com

## FEATURED LISTING

June 25/27

**U.S. PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS IN THE ARTS PERFORMANCE & EXHIBIT**
Washington, D.C.
20 high school senior artists who will be named U.S. Presidential Scholars in the Arts will perform at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall, 8:30 pm Monday, June 27 and be featured in a one-month exhibit at The National Museum of Women in the Arts opening on Sunday, June 26.
For more information, contact nina@nfaa.org
www.ARTSawards.org

NFAA
National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts


Few cruise itineraries include stops at 7,700 feet in the Andes, but traveling with Tauck has always been about getting a lot more than you expected. Whether it's exploring Machu Picchu on our Peru & The Galapagos Islands cruise/tour or dining with a baron in his Loire Valley chateau, a Tauck journey is full of enriching experiences and exclusive "insider" access.

Travel with Tauck, and you'll also enjoy lodging at the best hotels and gourmet meals at the finest restaurants. And a Tauck trip is also an incredible value. In fact, Tauck saves you as much as 40% off the price of an identical itinerary if you were to book it yourself – and that may be the best surprise of all.

**Tauck World Discovery. Perfectly accommodating.**

TAUCK WORLD DISCOVERY

Contact your travel professional, call us at (800) 760-8687
or visit www.tauck.com/smithsonian

# The Missouri Breaks

*As spring warms the North Dakota plains, ice—and injured feelings—begin to thaw*

*In early March, Toussaint Charbonneau, one of the expedition's interpreters, returned to camp bearing gifts from a North West Company agent. Lewis and Clark considered the gifts a bribe, and suspected Charbonneau of being in league with the company to sabotage American inroads into the lucrative fur trade. Later in the month, the Missouri River finally began to thaw, and the corps prepared to resume the expedition.*

March 11, 1805 [Capt. William Clark]
We have every reason to believe that our Menetarre interpeter, (whome we intended to take with his wife, as an interpeter through his wife to the Snake Indians of which nation She is) has been Corupted by the *[blank]* Companeys &c. Some explenation has taken place which Clearly proves to us the fact, we give him to night to reflect and deturmin whether or not he intends to go with us under the regulations Stated.

March 17 [Clark]
Mr. Chabonah Sent a french man of our party that he was Sorry for the foolissh part he had acted and if we pleased he would accompany us agreeabley to the terms we had perposed and doe every thing we wished him to doe &c. &c. he had requested me Some [time] thro our French inturpeter two days ago to excuse his Simplicity and take him into the cirvise, after he had taken his things across the River we called him in and Spoke to him on the Subject, he agreed to our terms and we agreed that he might go on with us &c. &c.

March 28 [Clark]
The ice has Stoped running owing to Som obstickle above, repare the Boat & Perogues, and prepareing to Set out.

March 29 [Clark]
The obstickle broke away above & the ice came dow in great quantites the river rose 13 inches in the last 24 hours I observed extrodanary dexterity of the Indians in jumping from one Cake of ice to another, for the purpose of Catching the buffalow as they float down maney of the Cakes of ice which they pass over are not two feet Square. The Plains are on fire in view of the fort on both Sides of the River, it is Said to be common for the Indians to burn the Plains near their villages every Spring for the benifit of ther horse, and to induce the Buffalow to come near to them.

CHARLES FRITZ

"The Natives still continue to bring in Corn for work they want done, which is chiefly getting their Guns repaired by our Blacksmiths."

There's a place
where a bridge was built to be climbed
and music was made to float.
The beach is your front yard
and shorts are the dress code.
Where you say g'day but never say goodbye.
A different rhythm.
A different perspective.

*A different light.*

Australia
australia.com

Australia. An island of open arms that reach out across a continent of natural wonders. Explore the incredible range of Aussie experiences beginning with the urban elegance of the Sydney Opera House to the raw beauty of Uluru (Ayers Rock). Take the first step toward an unforgettable vacation that's just right for you. The entire country is literally at your fingertips when you visit Australia.com.

# Scientists Nab Stowaways, Foil Invasions

For centuries alien plants and animals transported from distant ports in ships' ballast water have posed a threat to native marine species. New research suggests that a solution to the problem may be at hand

THE ENTRANCE to the No. 4 port-side ballast tank of the cargo ship is a gaping hole in the deck, through which a rusty ladder pokes into a damp, spooky murk. Timothy Mullady and Esther Collinetti of the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) in Edgewater, Maryland, converge on the opening and waste no time setting up their equipment to find out what stowaways have hitched a ride from Halifax, Nova Scotia, the ship's last port, to Baltimore, where it's now docked.

Mullady and Collinetti lower into the water an electronic probe that gauges the temperature, salinity and oxygen at various depths. Mullady attaches a long, gray, cylinder-shaped bottle to a very fine mesh net that looks like a skinny, white windsock, lowers the apparatus to the tank's bottom and begins hauling it up. "This is pulling up all the critters in that water column," Mullady says. "All right," he says as the apparatus breaks the surface, "we've got a lot of stuff." He pours some of the water into a vial—it will go back to the lab for tests—and then he empties the net onto a fine mesh screen. It's suddenly crawling with larval fish, crabs and copepods, small crustaceans. He uses another bottle, one that he can trigger to open at a particular depth, to collect more water, which will be tested for chlorophyll, evidence of plankton or

Collinetti and Mullady (aboard a ship in Baltimore Harbor) net marine organisms (inset).

MARK FINKENSTAEDT; MARINE INVASIONS RESEARCH LABORATORY / SMITHSONIAN ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH CENTER

# New insight from every angle. You and us.

Please join us at: **"Contemporary Voices: Works from The UBS Art Collection"**

February 4 to April 25, 2005

The Museum of Modern Art

11 West 53rd Street, New York

Wealth Management | Global Asset Management | Investment Bank

You & Us

UBS

Francesco Clemente. Perseverance. 1981. Oil on canvas. The Museum of Modern Art, Partial and Promised Gift of UBS. © 2005 Francesco Clemente. © UBS 2005. The key symbol and UBS are registered and unregistered trademarks of UBS. All rights reserved.

A whelk from Japan now inhabits Chesapeake Bay.

plants, and bacteria.

The tests in Baltimore Harbor were typical of research that Mullady, Collinetti and other SERC scientists have conducted over the past 11 years on some 450 ships in the Chesapeake Bay, San Francisco and Port Valdez, Alaska. The work, an extensive survey of the organisms found in ballast water, focuses on a global environmental problem of increasing concern to scientists and policymakers, says Gregory Ruiz, senior scientist at SERC's Marine Invasion Research Laboratory, the largest of its kind in the nation.

Loaded in one port and discharged in another, ballast water can carry plants, animals and even microbes great distances and transplant them into harbors where the foreign species devour or out-compete native ones. In 1947, the veined rapa whelk—a snail native to the Sea of Japan and the East China Sea—showed up in the Black Sea, likely by ship, and spread rapidly, feasting on native shellfish. Fifty years later, it appeared in the Chesapeake Bay, and scientists believe that ballast water, once again, was the culprit.

Ships pay 80,000 to 90,000 visits to U.S. ports annually, says Coast Guard commander Kathy Moore, chief of the agency's environmental standards division. In 1996, Congress passed legislation requesting ships arriving at U.S. ports to reduce ballast-borne invasive species. The most common step is to exchange ballast water with seawater at least 200 miles offshore; when the tanks are emptied inshore, the water contains deep-sea organisms that are less likely to survive in that environment. Last July, the Coast Guard made such ballast exchange mandatory.

SERC scientists studying the practice's effectiveness have found that replacing inshore water with deep-sea water in ballast tanks does indeed reduce the opportunities for alien marine invasions. Still, the Coast Guard hasn't been able to enforce the new regulation because officials have lacked a dependable, onboard test that could readily distinguish coastal (ballast) water and deep-ocean (exchanged) water. But now the agency, using data gathered by SERC, is developing a device, a hand-held spectrophotometer, that will be able to do just that. The Coast Guard says the meters should be in the field within a few years.

Meanwhile, SERC scientists are pursuing another approach: killing organisms in ballast water with biochemicals, ultraviolet radiation or some other eradication method. The problem of unwittingly transplanting alien organisms from port to port is as old as shipping itself. But with new tools and regulations, Mullady says, "we're nearing the end of a long road."

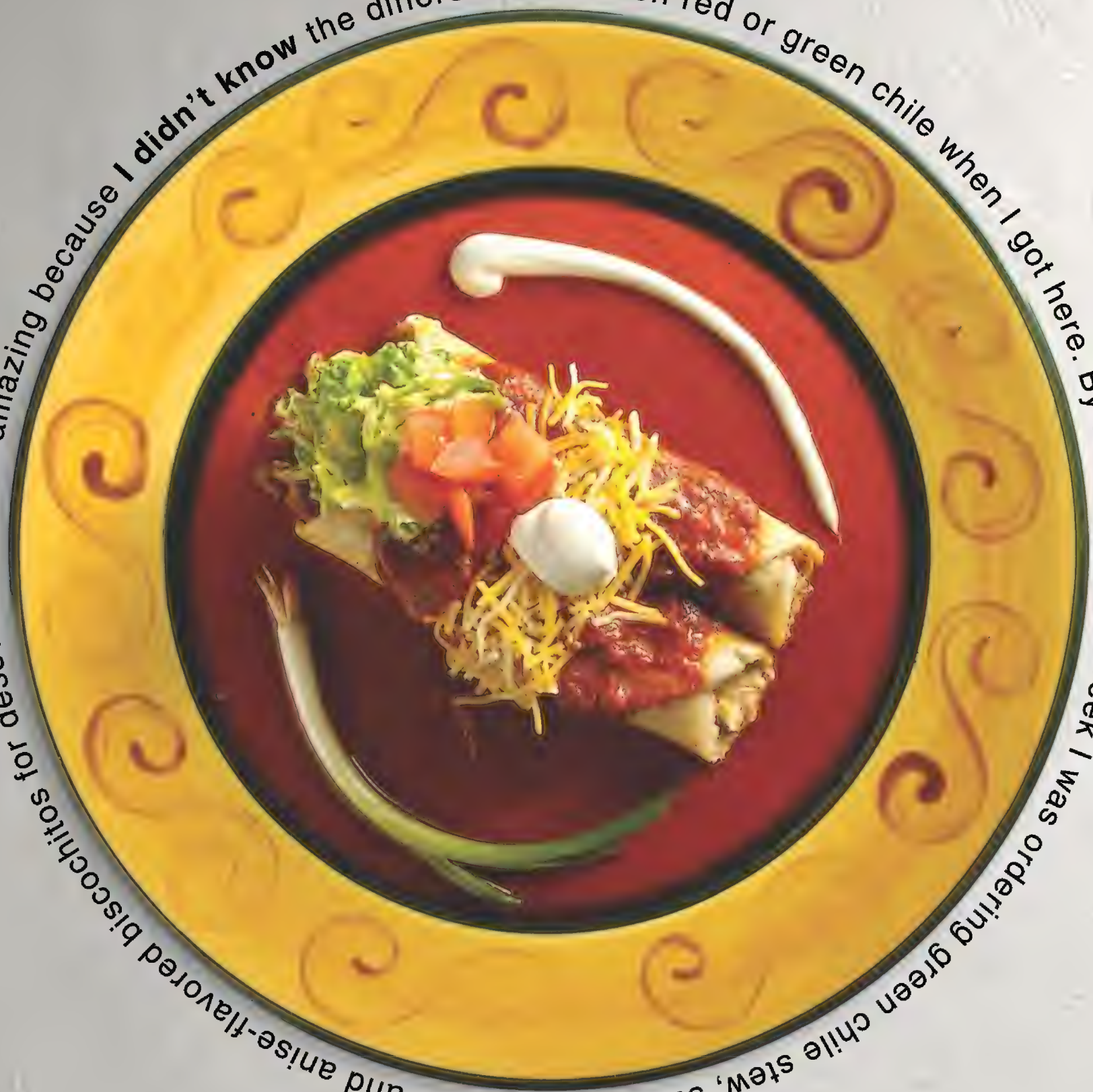
*—WENDY MITMAN CLARKE*

## FROM THE ATTIC

**EASTER MONDAY** Almost since the Smithsonian's National Zoo opened, in 1891, African-American families have gathered there the day after Easter (above, in 1936) to picnic and roll brightly colored eggs down Lion-Tiger Hill, at the park's entrance. Many Washington, D.C.-area blacks preferred the celebration to the White House festivities. "I always would ask [my father] why we couldn't go to the White House to the Easter Egg roll, and he'd say because this activity is better for us," native Washingtonian Justine Love said in 2003 on her 50th Easter Monday visit to the Zoo. Another District denizen, Tyrone Parker, 56, remembers traveling by streetcar when he was 4 or 5 years old and enjoying the Zoo's wide-open grassy spaces: "We kids could run around and have a great time." The event appears to have peaked around 1919, when more than 55,000 attended. Some years, the egg-rolling got out of hand. In 1938, the *Washington Post* reported, Bongo the hippo's "cavernous maw was a veritable rainbow of colored eggs." Today, the African American Family Celebration, as it's officially known, still retains what Parker says is "the rich history and values of yesterday."

*—BETH PY-LIEBERMAN*

*AMY J. BENSON / USGS; NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK PHOTO ARCHIVES, S.I.*


I was ordering green chile stew, stuffed sopaipillas and anise-flavored biscochitos for dessert. Which is amazing because I didn't know the difference between red or green chile when I got here. By the end of the week I was

NEW MEXICO
LAND OF ENCHANTMENT
WWW.NEWMEXICO.ORG

FOR A VACATION GUARANTEED TO TAKE YOU FULL CIRCLE, VISIT NEWMEXICO.ORG OR CALL 1-800-733-6396 EXT. 2979.

"Food holds families together," says de Montaño.

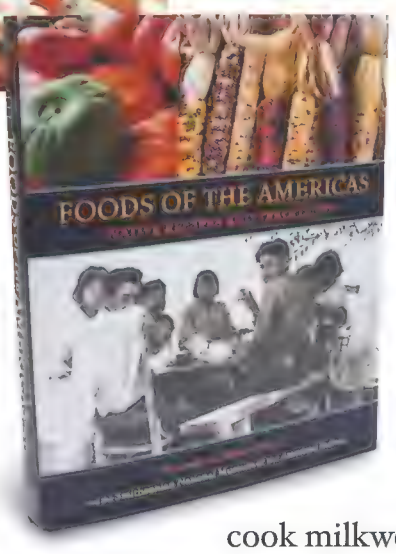
# Please Pass the Boar

A new cookbook pays tasty tribute to traditional fare of the Americas' indigenous peoples

ON HER WEDDING DAY 40 years ago, Marty Kreipe de Montaño's mother gave her a cookbook that included instructions for preparing woodchuck, moose and white-tailed deer. A few months ago, de Montaño, a 60-year-old Prairie Band Potawatomi Indian and the manager of the Resource Centers at the National Museum of the American Indian, scanned many of the recipes and gave them to her daughter, to pass on someday to her own two children. "Food is the stuff that holds families and traditions together," de Montaño says.

That sentiment echoes throughout a new book to which de Montaño has contributed, *Foods of the Americas: Native Recipes and Traditions*, just co-published by the museum and Ten Speed Press. In the book, de Montaño, one of nine co-authors, writes about childhood visits to the Potawatomi Reservation 30 miles north of Topeka, Kansas. For funerals and wakes, her grandmother, Lenora Blandin Bourdon, would make *dom na bo*, or corn soup, in big, black kettles set between two poles over a fire.

"We used corn kernels, which we had plucked earlier from sweet ears of corn and air-dried in the sun," she recalled the other day over a lunch of buffalo meat and blue corn bread at the museum's café. Her grandmother would reconstitute the kernels in water with a hambone and salt. "As the women sang their mourning songs, we would eat bowls of dom na bo along with fluffy pillows of fry bread," de Montaño says. "Somehow that soup made things better." She also remembers how her grandmother taught her to cook milkweed gathered from a roadside: boil the tender shoots, throw away the milky water—it's poisonous—then fry the shoots with bacon.




*Foods of the Americas* includes recipes for fry bread and 118 other dishes—Venison with Juniper and Wild Huckleberry Sauce, Wild Rice and Corn Fritters, and Turkey with Oaxacan Black Mole—drawn from tribes across the continents. The recipes underscore how the Americas' native foods changed most of the world's cuisines. Before 1492, after all, the rest of the world knew nothing about the continents' indigenous crops such as tomatoes, potatoes, corn, chiles and cocoa. As the book shows, de Montaño says, "Indian food is really American food." —*JOHN F. ROSS*

## WHO'S COUNTING?

**4**

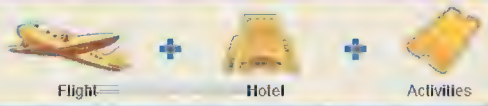
CHEETAH CUBS (TWO MALES AND TWO FEMALES) WERE BORN NOVEMBER 23 AT THE NATIONAL ZOO—THE FIRST LITTER OF ITS KIND AT THE ZOO IN ITS 115-YEAR HISTORY. THE MOTHER, 4-YEAR-OLD TUMAI, IS PATIENT, SAYS THE ZOO'S JACK GRISHAM, EVEN WHEN THE CUBS SIT ON HER HEAD.

KAREN BALLARD; JESSE COHEN / NATIONAL ZOOLOGICAL PARK, S.I.

**VISIT THE SMITHSONIAN** For a free Associates' planning packet, call Smithsonian Information, 202-357-2700 or 202-357-1729 (TTY), 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Saturday, or send an e-mail to info@si.edu. **INFORMATION CENTER:** Upon arrival, stop at the Smithsonian Information Center in the Castle (9 a.m.-5:30 p.m.). Members are invited to drop by the reception desk (9 a.m.-4 p.m.) to register for a behind-the-scenes tour and to hear about membership benefits. Most museums are open daily, 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., except December 25.

Copyright © Expedia, Inc. All rights reserved. Expedia, Expedia.com and the airplane logo are registered trademarks of Expedia, Inc. in the U.S. Canada and other countries. CST 2022050-10.

## This way to a great trip.



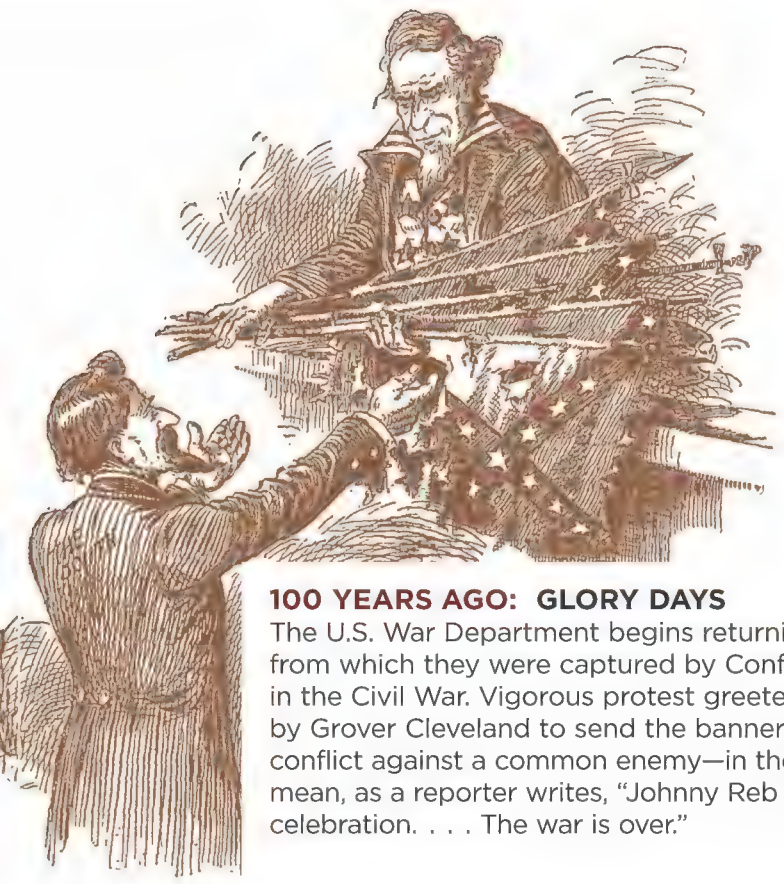

You know that trip you've been dreaming about? Make it happen with Expedia. We have the most travel options anywhere. So you can choose the right flight, pick the perfect hotel, even reserve a seaside massage. And when you book it all together, you'll save even more money. Now there's nothing standing between you and the perfect trip.

Expedia.com®

Powered by Travelocity on msn. Copyright © Expedia, Inc. All rights reserved.

# THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

*MARCH ANNIVERSARIES—MOMENTOUS OR MERELY MEMORABLE*



**100 YEARS AGO: GLORY DAYS**

The U.S. War Department begins returning 544 flags to the states from which they were captured by Confederate and Union forces in the Civil War. Vigorous protest greeted an 1887 proposal by Grover Cleveland to send the banners back, but time and a conflict against a common enemy—in the Spanish-American War—mean, as a reporter writes, "Johnny Reb fraternizes with Yank in celebration. . . . The war is over."

**40 YEARS AGO: FREEDOM MARCH**

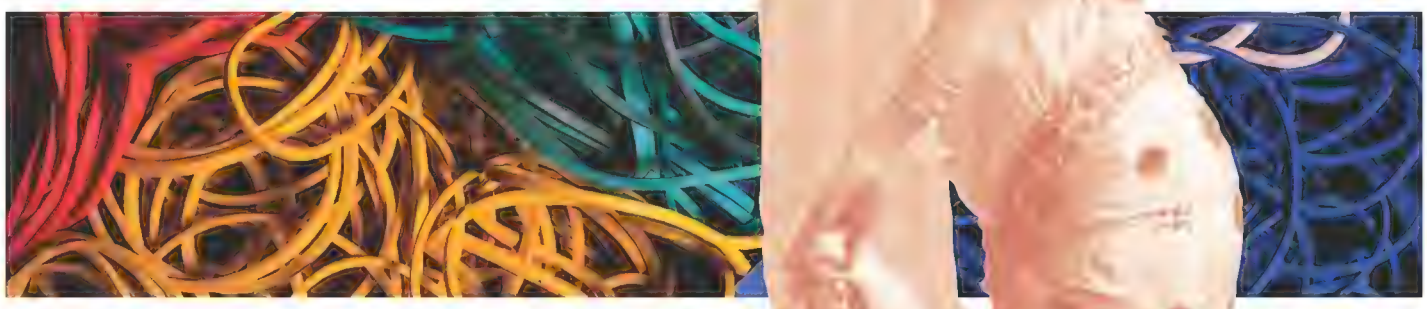
After two failed attempts, Martin Luther King Jr. leads 3,200 marchers on a 50-mile trek from Selma, Alabama, to the capitol in Montgomery March 21, 1965. The marchers, swollen to some 25,000, arrive to demand voting rights for African-Americans. "It will not be long," King pledges. By August, the Voting Rights Act has been signed into law. King is assassinated in April 1968.

**230 YEARS AGO: FIGHTING WORDS**

Rising from his seat at the Virginia Convention in Richmond, March 23, 1775, delegate Patrick Henry, incensed by colleagues who advocate reconciliation with Britain, issues an appeal to arms for an inevitable fight, concluding: "As for me, give me liberty or give me death!" His fiery oratory is both persuasive and prophetic; his resolution to raise a militia passes, and within weeks the Revolution's first shot rings out. Henry dies in 1799.

**30 YEARS AGO: SLIP-SLIDING AWAY**

Construction of the Alaska pipeline begins. The 48-inch-wide pipe will carry crude oil 800 miles from Prudhoe Bay, where it was found in 1968, to Valdez, where it can be shipped to refineries. Facing temperatures as low as -70, workers must install half the pipeline's length aboveground to avoid melting permafrost. Two years and $8 billion later, the first gallon goes the distance. By 2004, some 550 billion more will have followed.



**160 YEARS AGO: BOING**

Londoner Stephen Perry patents the rubber band, to keep letters sorted, in 1845. Made of vulcanized rubber, discovered in 1839 by Charles Goodyear, the elastic loops quickly find uses in everything from ponytails to model planes. Perry bounces into obscurity.

**100 YEARS AGO: VEILED**

Dutch divorcée Margaretha Zelle MacLeod, 23, storms the Paris stage in 1905 as exotic dancer "Mata Hari." Hailed as "the most perfectly formed woman in the world," she becomes a symbol of sexual intrigue when, during World War I, she is arrested for passing military secrets, obtained from lovers, to the Germans. She is executed by firing squad in October 1917.

—*ALISON MCLEAN*

*LOS ANGELES TIMES; BETTMANN / CORBIS; CURRIER & IVES / GRANGER COLLECTION, NY; HULTON ARCHIVE / GETTY IMAGES; BETTMANN / CORBIS, CORBIS*

©2002 American Honda Motor Co., Inc. honda.com

# We're building a dream, one robot at a time.

The dream was simple. Design a robot that, one day, could duplicate the complexities of human motion and actually help people. An easy task? Hardly. But after more than 15 years of research and development, the result is ASIMO, an advanced robot with unprecedented human-like abilities. ASIMO walks forward and backward, turns corners, and goes up and down stairs with ease. All with a remarkable sense of strength and balance.

The future of this exciting technology is even more promising. ASIMO has the potential to respond to simple voice commands, recognize faces, carry loads and even push wheeled objects. This means that, one day, ASIMO could be quite useful in some very important tasks. Like assisting the elderly, and even helping with household chores. In essence, ASIMO might serve as another set of eyes, ears and legs for all kinds of people in need.

All of this represents the steps we're taking to develop products that make our world a better place. And in ASIMO's case, it's a giant step in the right direction.

HONDA

The Power of Dreams

# FUTURE SHOCKS

## MODERN SCIENCE, ANCIENT CATASTROPHES AND THE ENDLESS QUEST TO PREDICT EARTHQUAKES

BY KEVIN KRAJICK • PHOTOGRAPHS BY BRIAN SMALE

BRIAN ATWATER paddled a battered aluminum canoe up the Copalis River, pushed along by a rising Pacific tide. At this point, a 130-mile drive from Seattle, the 100-foot-wide river wound through wide salt marshes fringed with conifers growing on high ground. The scene, softened by gray winter light and drizzle, was so quiet one could hear the whisper of surf a mile away. But then Atwater rounded a bend, and a vision of sudden, violent destruction appeared before him: stranded in the middle of a marsh were dozens of towering western red cedars, weathered like old bones, their gnarly, hollow trunks wide enough to crawl into. "The ghost forest," Atwater said, pulling his paddle from the water. "Earthquake victims."

Atwater beached the canoe and got out to walk among the

Past is prologue for geology's new breed (Brian Atwater in a Washington State "ghost forest," created by a 1700 earthquake), who are finding ominous signs that devastating earthquakes (left, San Francisco in 1906) are more common than once believed.

Smithsonian
MARCH 2005 VOLUME 35, NUMBER 12

spectral giants, relics of the last great Pacific Northwest earthquake. The quake generated a vast tsunami that inundated parts of the West Coast and surged across the Pacific, flooding villages some 4,500 miles away in Japan. It was as powerful as the one that killed more than 220,000 people in the Indian Ocean in December. The cedars died after saltwater rushed in, poisoning their roots but leaving their trunks standing. This quake is not noted in any written North American record, but it is clearly written in the earth. The ghost forest stands as perhaps the most conspicuous and haunting warning that it has happened here before—and it will surely happen here again.

"When I started out, a lot of these dangers were not all that clear," says Atwater, a geologist for the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) who specializes in the science of paleoseismology, or the study of earthquakes past. "If you look at what we know now, it beats you over the head."

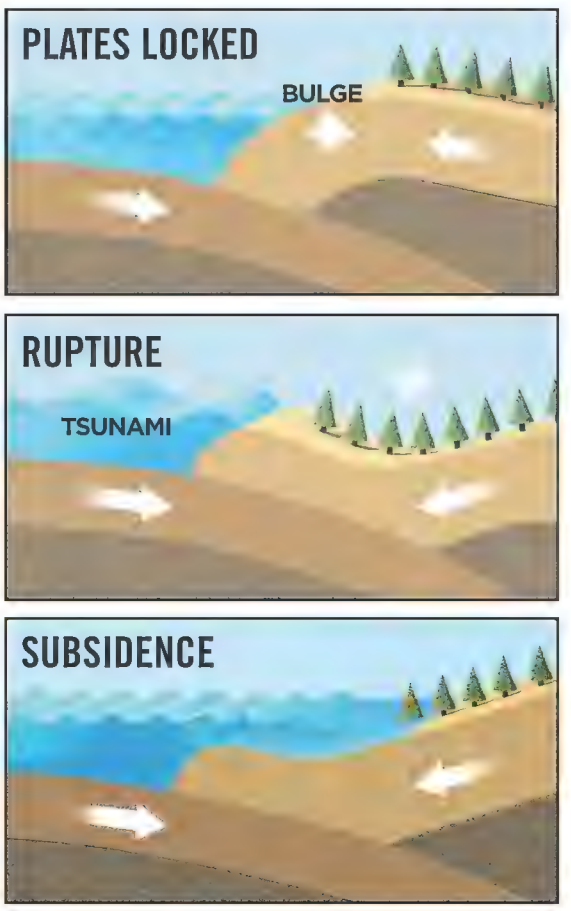
In one of the more remarkable feats of modern geoscience, researchers have pinpointed the date, hour and size of the cataclysm that killed these cedars. In Japan, officials had recorded an "orphan" tsunami—unconnected with any felt earthquake—with waves up to ten feet high along 600 miles of the Honshu coast at midnight, January 27, 1700. Several years ago, Japanese researchers, by estimating the tsunami's speed, path and other properties, concluded that it was triggered by a magnitude 9 earthquake that warped the seafloor off the Washington coast at 9 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on January 26, 1700. To confirm it, U.S. researchers found a few old trees of known age that had survived the earthquake and compared their tree rings with the rings of the ghost forest cedars. The trees had indeed died just before the growing season of 1700.

In the Pacific Northwest, where written records start in the late 1700s, paleoseismologists have spotted many other signs of past disasters, from sands washed far inshore to undersea landslides. In addition to the risk from offshore earthquakes, recent studies show that Seattle and the greater Puget Sound area, with its four million people, is itself underlain by a network of faults in the earth's surface. They also have ruptured catastrophically in the not-very-distant past. Considering all the geologic evidence, scientists now say a major earthquake strikes the Pacific Northwest every few hundred years—give or take a few hundred years. That means the next one could strike tomorrow.

The study of the past has taken on paramount importance because scientists still cannot predict earthquakes, though not for lack of effort. One important quake-forecasting experiment has taken place since 1985 in tiny Parkfield, California, the self-proclaimed "earthquake capital of the world." The town sits atop a highly active section of the San Andreas fault, the dangerous crack that cuts the state south to north for 800 miles. Due to underlying geological forces, quakes occur in the same places repeatedly. Until recently, much of modern earthquake theory was based on the idea that intervals between these events were nicely regular. Through most of the 20th century, Parkfield, for example, had one every 22 years or so. But experience now shows that quakes are maddeningly unpredictable. Scientists forecast that a quake would hit Parkfield in 1988, give or take five years. They installed networks of strainmeters, creepmeters, seismometers and other instruments around the town. Their goal was to capture precursors to the expected quake, such as a pattern of subtle

Terra firma? Hardly. The earth's surface is a patchwork. The strain at the boundary between continental and ocean plates (yellow line) can push the land upward. A rupture triggers an earthquake—and a tsunami—and then the terrain subsides.

## THE QUAKING COAST




DOUG STERN; P. 38 USGS PHOTO

tremors, that they could later use to predict when another quake is imminent. The earthquake did come along—in September 2004, with one-twentieth the expected power—and with no warning whatsoever. Looking at all their measurements, scientists still have found no reliable signs that an earthquake is about to strike.

Still, by gathering ever more information about the past, paleoseismologists are becoming adept at mapping danger zones and spreading the warning, even if they can't say when the next one is due. The information, though imprecise, is useful to engineers, city planners and others who can strengthen building codes and educate the public about how to survive a major quake whenever it comes. Art Frankel, a chief architect of the USGS national seismic hazard mapping project, says such geological "hazard maps" are like charts of the most dangerous traffic intersections; they can't predict when the next car accident will happen, but they do tell you to watch out.

Due to these studies of past earthquakes, the world is looking ever more inhospitable. Paleoseismology is turning up portentous signs of past upheavals in the U.S. Midwest, eastern Canada, Australia and Germany. "We're discovering some

---

*KEVIN KRAJICK is the author of* Barren Lands: An Epic Search for Diamonds in the North American Arctic. *Photographer BRIAN SMALE is based in Seattle.*

Signs of past seismic activity may be hidden (geologists inspect contorted sediment layers within a fault excavated outside Seattle) or in plain sight (a marine shelf on Puget Sound was lifted about 20 feet by a quake in the year 900).

It may move up to 500 miles an hour, but a tsunami doesn't have to be a surprise. The first warning system, a series of tidal stations, was installed in the Pacific after a tsunami hit Hawaii in 1946 (above, left) and expanded after one struck Alaska in 1964 (above, right, Kodiak). A network of sensors (below, a Pacific buoy) now guards the West Coast of the United States and Canada.

new hazard every few months," says Brian Sherrod, a USGS geologist investigating the Seattle faults. The Pacific Northwest may not be the only place harboring such nasty surprises, but it is where the geological signs are most dramatic, the science is moving fast, and a future earthquake would be among the most catastrophic.

THE EARTH'S CRUST consists of interlocking tectonic plates that float on the hot, pliable interior of the planet, drifting and colliding with one another. The Pacific Northwest coast is such a dangerous place because it rests on a continental plate that meets, some 30 to 90 miles offshore, a seafloor plate. The boundary between the two plates, stretching 700 miles from British Columbia to Northern California, is called the Cascadia subduction zone. Subduction is the process by which an ocean plate nudges under a continental plate, usually by a few inches a year. Grinding between such plates can bring small temblors, but often the parts lock against each other like sticky watch gears, causing the still-advancing seafloor to compress like a spring and the overlying coastline to warp upward. When the pent-up pressure finally pops, the seafloor lunges landward and the coast lunges seaward, with seaside real estate collapsing. The shifting plates displace seawater in all directions, creating a tsunami that travels up to 500 miles an hour. These subduction-zone quakes are the world's largest, dwarfing those that take place in the land's crust. December's subduction quake in Indonesia, a magnitude 9, was about 30 times more powerful than the 1906 San Francisco event that took place in the continental crust near the city. Other major subduction-zone quakes off Alaska in 1946 and 1964 sent tsunamis all the way to Hawaii and Northern California, killing scores of people.

NOAA (3)

DOWNRIVER OF THE GHOST FOREST, with heavy rain threatening the tidal estuary of the Copalis River, Atwater stepped from the canoe to stand crotch-deep in cold water and mud. He wore hiking boots and chest waders, having learned long ago that tidal mud can suck hip waders right off of you. Wielding an entrenching tool, a military folding shovel, he chopped at the riverbank to view the sedimentary layers, which can yield a great deal of information about past quakes. Every time a seafloor earthquake occurs here, forests and marshes suddenly drop, and are reburied by later sediments washed in by tides and river drainage. A geologist can dig a hole in search of such buried evidence—or find a riverbank where erosion has done most of the work for him, which was what Atwater had here. His tool kit also included a hunting knife and a *nejiri gama*, a trowel-size Japanese gardening tool shaped like a hoe.

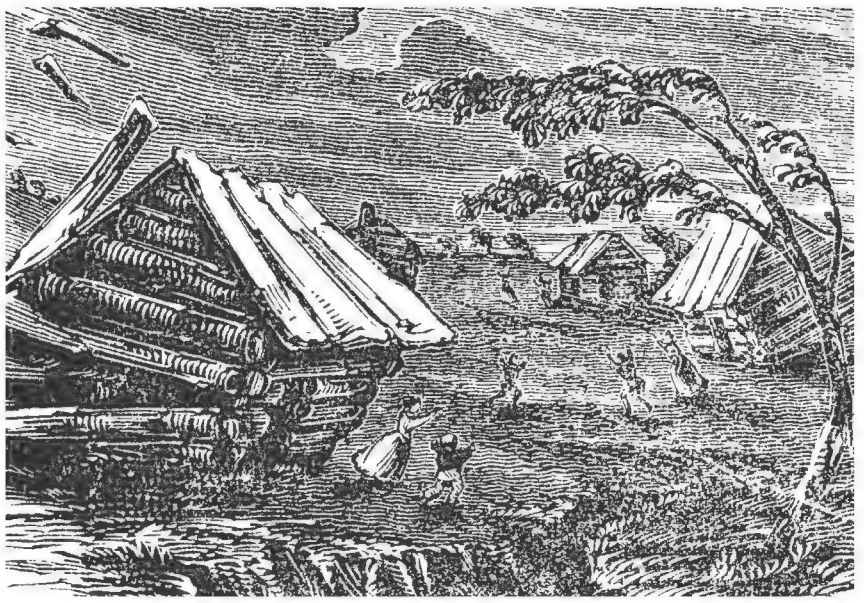
Atwater kneeled in the shallows and scraped riverbank mud down onto his thighs, then smoothed the bank with the nejiri gama. Below the two and half feet of brownish tidal muck lay a half-inch band of gray sand, which was neatly draped over black peat. The peat was laced with tree roots, even though the nearest visible tree was far across the marsh. "Hoo, that's nice, that's fresh!" Atwater shouted. "Old dependable!" These trees grow only above the tide line and were now below it. Something, he said, had dropped this ecosystem several feet all at once; all signs point to a seafloor quake. Radiocarbon dating has shown the plants died about 300 years ago. The overlying sand sheet was the clincher: only a tsunami could have laid it down.

Atwater, 53, has been combing the region since 1986 for evidence of past earthquakes, and his work at a dozen estuaries—in addition to other scientists' findings—has re-

vealed not only the great 1700 earthquake and tsunami but also a dozen other major quakes over the past 7,000 years. Recent seafloor studies off the Pacific Northwest coast tell the same story. Overall, big subduction-zone quakes strike on average every 500 to 600 years. But the intervals between them range from 200 to 1,000 years. "*If* we can predict that we're in a short interval, we've essentially used up our time. But we *can't* predict," says Chris Goldfinger, a marine geologist at Oregon State University. Recent studies using satellite-controlled global-positioning systems and other new technology confirm that the region's tectonic plates are converging and locked together. In some places, the Washington and Oregon coastlines are rising by 1.5 inches a year. As Atwater points out, "That doesn't sound like much until you multiply it by, say, 1,000 years, and you get ten feet." And if the land has risen that far, it could drop that far when a quake comes, just like the layer of peat Atwater uncovered in the tidal estuary. "The bulge will collapse during the next earthquake, and there will be new ghost forests," he says.

We paddled farther up the Copalis to the mouth of a small creek, where Atwater located the 1700 tsunami sand sheet's continuation in the riverbank. With his nejiri gama, he dug out clumps of perfectly preserved ancient spruce needles, apparently cast up by the great waves. Nearby he uncovered a shard of fire-cracked rock—evidence of a cook fire. "That's spooky," he says. "It makes you wonder what happened to these people." Paleoseismology has shed new light on legends by aboriginal coastal peoples such as the Yurok and the Quileute. Many stories describe times when the earth shook and the ocean crashed in, wiping out villages, stranding canoes in trees and killing everyone but the fastest or luckiest. Storytellers often explained these events as the result of a battle between a great whale and a thunderbird. "Well before settlers came here, Native peoples dealt with earthquakes," says James Rasmussen, a councilman for the Duwamish people in Seattle. Archaeologists have now identified many sites that contain pottery and other artifacts that were submerged by rising waters. Apparently, Native people over the years moved closer to the shore or fled it as thunderbird and whale fought it out.

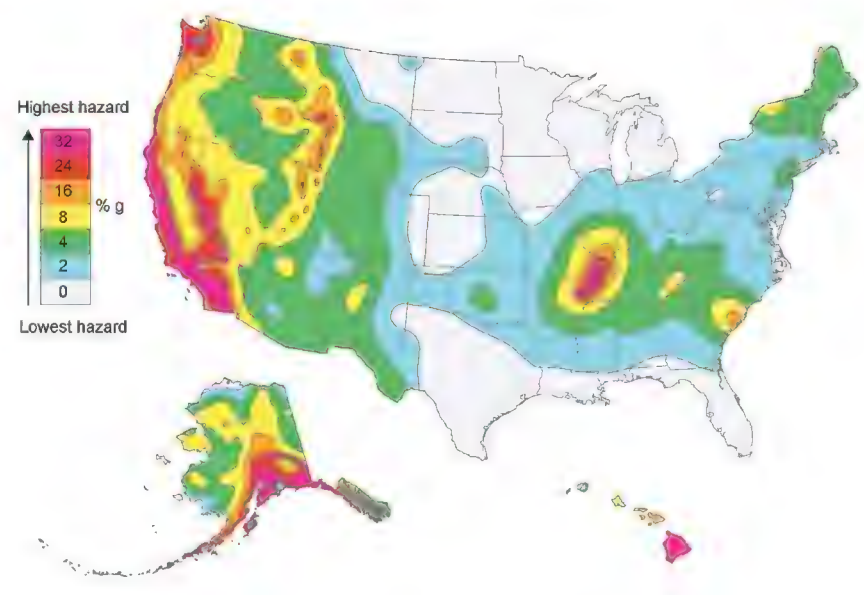
Today, of course, we're not so light on our feet. A recent study estimates that ten million people on the U.S. West Coast would be affected by a Cascadia subduction-zone quake. Three hundred years of tectonic pressure has now built up. The shaking from such a quake, lasting two to four minutes, would damage 200 highway bridges, put Pacific ports out of business for months, and generate low-frequency shock waves possibly capable of toppling tall buildings and long bridges in Seattle and Portland, Oregon. A tsunami of 30 feet or more would reach parts of the Pacific Coast in little over half an hour. Of special concern to Washington State officials are places like the coastal resort town of Ocean Shores, on a long sand spit with a narrow access road that serves 50,000 visitors on a summer day. Here, the highest ground—26 feet above sea level—would hold only "about



An earthquake in Missouri 193 years ago destroyed structures for 250 miles and briefly reversed the Mississippi River's flow.

## WHERE THE EARTH MOVES

On a U.S. Geological Survey earthquake hazard map (below), some of the places that pop out in red and pink—indicating, roughly, a 10 percent probability of a severe quake in the next 50 years—are famous for their seismic danger. California, for instance, suffered a quake that shook San Francisco just before a 1989 World Series game, killing scores of people, and the 1994 Northridge quake buckled freeways and caused $40 billion in damage. But going beyond modern historical records, geologists now appreciate the potential for dangerous earthquakes in seemingly unlikely locales, such as central New Hampshire, which felt a big one in the 1600s. A series of quakes in New Madrid, Missouri, in 1811 and 1812 was considered a freak occurrence until the past decade, when studies of hidden faults suggested repeat times of only 500-some years. This puts parts of Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Illinois in what appears to be a big bull's-eye. Tunnels blasted for New York City's subways revealed faults slanting across Manhattan. The city sees occasional small temblors, like one that originated beneath Manhattan in October 2001. But earthquakes of magnitude 5 or so strike every 100 to 200 years, the last one in 1884. Estimates say the next one could cause $1 billion in damage.




STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI, COLUMBIA; USGS, NATIONAL SEISMIC HAZARD MAPPING PROJECT

100 people who are very good friends," says Tim Walsh, state geological hazards program manager. He suggests that the town consider "vertical evacuation"—building multistory schools or other public structures in which people on the top floors could escape a tsunami, assuming the buildings themselves could withstand the impact. To flee a tsunami, people need warnings, and the U.S. government has set out Pacific Ocean monitors to pick up signals from known danger spots, not only in the Pacific Northwest, but in Japan, Russia, Chile and Alaska as well. This system is designed to transmit warnings to countries across the basin within minutes. Similar networks are planned for the Atlantic and Indian oceans.

In Washington State, officials are trying to educate a public that has regarded the threat casually—but may now pay a lot more attention with the Indian Ocean tsunami as an object lesson. A few weeks before the disaster, Atwater and Walsh drove to Port Townsend, a Victorian-era seaport on the Strait of Juan de Fuca, about midway between Seattle and the open ocean, where they ran a tsunami workshop that was attended by only a handful of emergency officials and a few dozen residents. Walsh pointed out that a tsunami might take a couple of hours to reach Port Townsend, which has nearby cliffs for retreat. The town is dotted with blue-and-white tsunami warning signs. Unfortunately, they are a popular souvenir. "Just please stop stealing the signs," Walsh chided the audience as he handed out free paper replicas of the signs.

"A lot of people think of tsunamis as some kind of cool adventure," Walsh said after the meeting. He remembered that following a big 1994 seafloor quake off Russia's Kuril Islands, surfers in Hawaii headed for the beaches. A film crew actually set up at the surf line on the Washington coast, hoping to catch a giant wave that, fortunately for them, never came. Walsh said, "I think they won't be doing that next time."

BRIAN SHERROD, a geologist with the USGS in Seattle, has rush-hour traffic to thank for one discovery. Recently he led some visitors under Interstate 5, a ten-lane raised artery traversing the city's downtown, as thousands of northbound cars and trucks thundered overhead. He pointed to the ground beneath one of the massive concrete supports, where the ruptures of an earthquake fault in prehistoric times had tortured the usually flat sediment layers into broken waves, then smashed and bent them backward so that lower ones were shoved over the upper—as if someone had taken a layer cake and slammed a door on it. This is one of many scary signs from Seattle's past, though one of the few visible to the naked eye. "I spotted this when I was stopped in Friday-afternoon traffic," said Sherrod, pointing to the southbound lanes, 50 feet away at eye level. "I was singing real loud to the radio. Then I stopped singing and yelled, 'Holy sh-t!'"

Earthquakes have long been a fact of life in Seattle. Each year, inland Washington gets a dozen or so quakes big enough to feel, and since 1872, about two dozen have caused damage. Most cluster under the Puget Sound lowland, the heavily developed run of bays, straits, islands and peninsulas running through Seattle south to Olympia. Larger-than-usual quakes in 1949 and 1965 killed 14 people. In the past few decades, building codes have been upgraded and a network of seismometers installed across Washington and Oregon. Those instruments showed that most of the smaller quakes are shallow readjustments of the earth's crust—rarely a big deal. The more sizable events, like quakes in 1949 and 1965, typically emanate from depths of 30 miles or more. Fortunately, this is far enough down that a lot of energy bleeds from the seismic shock waves before they reach the surface. The most recent big deep one was the February 28, 2001, Nisqually quake—magnitude 6.8, as measured at its 32-mile-deep point of origin. It damaged older masonry buildings in Seattle's picturesque Pioneer Square shopping district, where unreinforced bricks flattened cars; at the vast nearby cargo harbor, pavement split and sand volcanoes boiled up. Though damage was some $2 billion to $4 billion statewide, many businesses were able to reopen within hours.

Like rain, a certain amount of worry about earthquakes and tsunamis (above, a sign on the coast) is a given in the Pacific Northwest. Geologists have found six active faults (one runs by Puget Sound's Restoration Point, below, to Seattle).

One of the first hints that monstrous quakes take place near Seattle's surface, where they can do catastrophic damage, came when companies were hunting for oil under Puget Sound in the 1960s, and geophysicists spotted apparent faults in the sound's floor. Into the 1990s, these were presumed to be inactive relic faults; then scientists looked more closely. At Restoration Point, on populous Bainbridge Island across Puget Sound from downtown Seattle, one USGS scientist recognized evidence of what geologists call a marine terrace. This is a stair-step structure made of a wave-cut sea cliff topped by a flat, dry area that runs up to several hundred feet inland to a similar, but higher cliff. Restoration Point's sharp, uneroded edges, and ancient marine fossils found on the flat step, suggested the whole block had risen more than 20 feet from the water all at once. Several miles north of the point lies a former tideland that apparently had dropped at the same time. These paired formations are the signature of what's known as a reverse fault, in which the earth's crust gets shoved up violently on one side and down on the other. This one is now called the Seattle fault zone. It runs west to east for at least 40 miles, under Puget Sound, downtown Seattle (cutting it in half) and its suburbs, and nearby lakes.

Along the Seattle fault on the east side of the city, Gordon Jacoby, a Columbia University tree-ring specialist, has identified another ghost forest—under 60 feet of water in Lake Washington. The trees did not sink; they rode off a nearby hill on a gigantic quake-induced landslide in the year 900, apparently at the same time that Restoration Point rose. Yet more evidence of that devastating event surfaced a decade ago several miles north of the Seattle fault. The city was digging a sewer, and Atwater spotted in one of the excavations an inland tsunami deposit—the first of many tied to that quake. The tsunami came when the fault thrust up under Puget Sound, sending out waves that smashed what is now the booming metropolitan waterfront.

Geologists have spotted at least five other fault zones in the region, from the Canadian border south to Olympia. The faults bear signs of half a dozen ruptures over the past 2,500 years, and one fault, the Utsalady, just north of Seattle, might have ruptured as recently as the early 1800s. The evidence amassed so far suggests an average repeat time for a major shallow continental earthquake from centuries to millennia.

The USGS has mounted a campaign to map the faults in detail. To do this, scientists use what they call active-source seismics—creating booms, then tracing vibrations through the earth with instruments to detect where subterranean breaks interrupt rock layers. Friendly Seattleites almost always let them dig up their lawn to bury a seismometer, and let them hook it to their electricity. Some neighbors even compete to land one of the instruments, out of what USGS geophysicist Tom Pratt calls "seismometer envy."

To create the vibrations, scientists have used air guns, shotguns, sledgehammers, explosives and "thumpers"—pile-driver-type trucks that pound the ground with enough force to rattle dishes. (A few years ago scientists had to apologize in the morning paper after one nighttime blast alarmed residents who thought it was an earthquake.) The USGS also made the most of the city's demolition of its aging Kingdome stadium with explosives in 2000. "We said to ourselves: 'Hey, that's gonna make a big boom!'" says Pratt, who helped plant 200 seismometers to monitor the event.

One day, Atwater and USGS geologist Ray Wells took a ferry to Restoration Point. The flat lower terrace is now a golf course, and on the cliff above people have built expensive homes. From here, the scientists pointed out the invisible path of the fault under Puget Sound toward Seattle, past a ten-mile strip of shipping-container piers, petroleum tank farms and industrial plants, to the city's passenger ferry docks—the country's busiest. As the fault reaches land, it crosses under the waterfront Alaskan Way Viaduct, a 1950s-vintage raised double-decked highway that almost collapsed in the 2001 Nisqually quake and is guaranteed to pancake with anything bigger. (Many geologists avoid driving on it.) Next, the fault passes crowds of skyscrapers up to 76 stories high, and under the two new stadiums housing the Seattle Seahawks football team and Mariners baseball team. It cuts beneath I-5, proceeds under a steep knoll topped by the headquarters of Amazon.com and forms the southern shoulder of I-90, and heads out to the rapidly growing suburbs around Lake Sammamish.

That is just the Seattle fault; the others zigging across the region could well be connected to it. Many scientists say it is even possible that the faults' activities are connected by some grand mechanism to the great subduction-zone quakes

"My colleagues and I describe this region as a geological train wreck," says USGS geologist Ray Wells (on Bainbridge Island, where researchers have cut away a Seattle fault offshoot).

out at sea, for many of the inland quakes seem to have occurred around the same times as those on the seafloor. But the inland mechanics are complicated. According to one currently popular theory, Washington is being pushed by Oregon northward, up against Canada. But Canada is not getting out of the way, so Washington is folding like an accordion, and sometimes those folds—the east-west faults—break violently. "Most people don't want to come right out and say it, but it is all probably linked together in some way we don't understand," says the USGS's Art Frankel.

Geophysicists recently created a stir when they discovered that the deeper part of the ocean slab, subducting from the west under southern British Columbia and northern Washington, slips with uncanny regularity—about every 14 months—without making conventional seismic waves. No one knows if this "silent" slip relieves tension in the offshore subduction zone or increases it—or if it could somehow help trigger inland quakes. This spring, geophysicists funded by the National Science Foundation will drop instruments into eight deep holes bored into the Olympic Peninsula, west of Seattle, in hopes of monitoring these subtle rumblings. In addition, 150 satellite-controlled global-positioning instruments will be set out across the Northwest to measure minute movements in the crust.

In any event, Seattle is one of the world's worst places for an earthquake. A scenario released last month by a joint private-government group estimates the damage from a 6.7 magnitude shallow crustal quake at $33 billion, with 39,000 buildings largely or totally destroyed, 130 fires burning simultaneously and 7,700 people dead or badly hurt. Part of the city sits on a soft basin of poorly consolidated sedimentary rocks, and like a bowl of gelatin this unstable base can jiggle if shocked, amplifying seismic waves up to 16 times. The harbor sits on watery former tidal mud flats, which can liquefy when shaken. One computer model shows a ten-foot tsunami roaring from Puget Sound over the Seattle waterfront to mow down cargo and passenger docks, and advancing toward the U.S. Navy shipyards in Bremerton. Even one major bridge collapse would paralyze the city, and engineers predict dozens. Seattle has a lot of high ground—some hillsides are so precipitous that driving up city streets can make ears pop—so landslides, already common in heavy rains, are predicted by the thousands.

The city is getting ready, says Ines Pearce, a Seattle emergency manager. A stricter building code was adopted last year. Raised-highway supports are being retrofitted to keep them from crumbling. Firehouse door frames are being reinforced to keep trucks from being trapped inside. Some 10,000 residents have been organized into local disaster response teams. Schools have removed overhead flush tanks and other hazards, and students duck under their desks in monthly "drop, cover and hold" earthquake exercises reminiscent of 1950s atomic bomb drills. But the preparations may not be enough. Tom Heaton, a California Institute of Technology geophysicist who first theorized the subduction threat to the Pacific Northwest and is now analyzing Seattle's infrastructure, says that even resistant structures may not survive a major crustal quake or one from the subduction zone. "Earthquake engineers base their designs on past mistakes. No one's ever seen ground shaking like what would occur in a giant earthquake," he says.

"We're discovering some new hazard every few months," geologist Brian Sherrod says. Facing up to a shaky future, Seattle plans to replace the Alaskan Way Viaduct, a highway that geologists say is likely to collapse in a big quake.

CHERYL HATCH / AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

Down in the basement of his home, on a leafy Seattle street, Brian Atwater pointed out where he spent $2,000 in the 1990s to reinforce his wooden house frame and bolt it to the concrete foundation, to better secure it. During the Nisqually quake, cracks broke out all over his plaster walls, and his chimney got twisted and had to be replaced. But the house didn't go anywhere. If something worse comes along, he hopes the reinforcing will allow his family to escape alive and salvage their possessions.

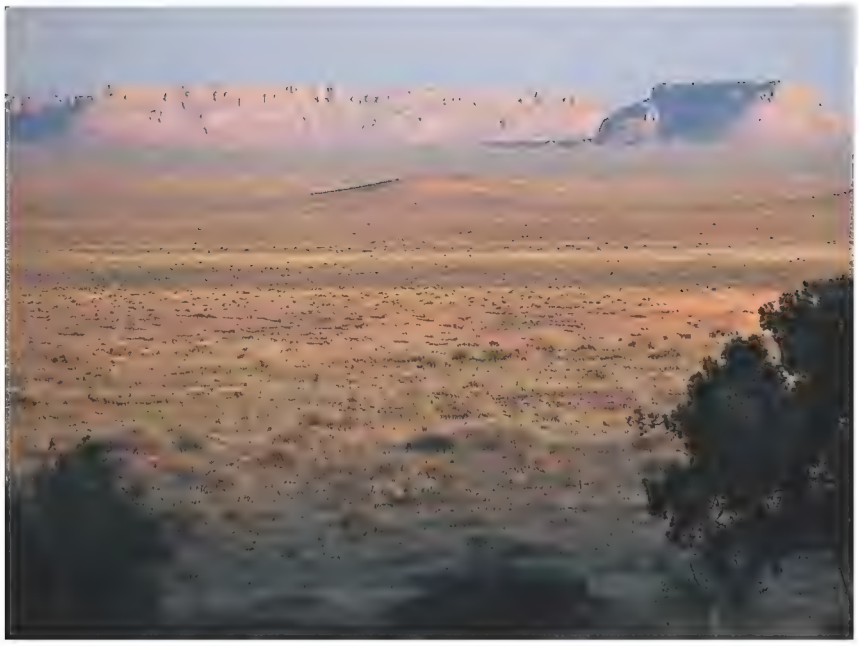
But there are some risks Atwater *is* willing to abide. On the way back from fieldwork one night recently, he was driving toward his house when he swung his pickup truck away from I-5—the obvious route—onto the dreaded Alaskan Way Viaduct. Wasn't he nervous? "I'd rather take my chances here," said Atwater, bumping along high over the lights of docks and ships in the harbor. "People over on I-5, they drive too crazy."

You can't put just anything in a well-designed home.

When everything matters, Marvin windows and doors matter. Demanding the very best in materials, performance and precision craft is what we do. Shouldn't you? We devote an artisan's attention to the most important furnishings in any room. The ones that can't be moved, but should move you. Ask your professional for Marvin Windows and Doors. Call 1-800-7e2-7e44 (in Canada, 1-800-7e3-e191) or learn more at **marvin.com/thedifference**

MARVIN
Windows and Doors

©Registered trademarks of Marvin Windows and Doors



Deep in a high-desert canyon filled with contorted cottonwoods, stunted blackbrush, cactuses and melodious canyon wrens, the "Holy Ghost" hovers above a sandy wash. Surrounded by lesser figures, the striking specter nearly eight feet tall shimmers on the canyon wall under the relentless sun.

Ancient nomads created the larger-than-life image perhaps as long as 7,000 years ago by filling their mouths with red ocher-tinted paint and spraying it out with a mighty burst onto the sandstone. The "Holy Ghost" (p. 50) is the focal point of the Great Gallery, a vast mural some 300 feet long and featuring about 80 figures, located a five-hour drive southeast of Salt Lake City in Utah's Horseshoe Canyon. No one knows for sure what the images represent or why they were painted.

David Sucec calls the Great Gallery the "Sistine Chapel" of Utah's Barrier Canyon—as this style of rock art is called—and says the men and women who painted it were true artists. "It's clear they weren't just making images," he says. "They liked to paint and probably had a tradition of painting and probably had what we would consider masters and apprentices."

But unlike Michelangelo's ceiling, the Great Gallery is exposed to the elements. And while many Barrier Canyon paintings remain resplendent, time is dulling them, natural rock spalling is gnawing at them and vandals are desecrating them. The Holy Ghost and others like it are vanishing.

Fourteen years ago Sucec, 67, a former professor of painting and art history at Virginia Commonwealth University, began to document the thousands of Barrier Canyon images hidden throughout Utah's labyrinthine canyon country. He enlisted Craig Law, a photography professor at Utah State University, to join him. The two men journey into Utah's

The nomads who traversed Utah's rough terrain (Flat Tops butte, above) scratched, pecked and painted thousands of images onto cliff walls, creating rock art known today as the Barrier Canyon style. The earliest painting at Black Dragon Canyon (right) is thought to be more than 8,000 years old.

# TRACES OF A LOST PEOPLE

## Who roamed the Colorado Plateau thousands of years ago? And what do their stunning paintings signify?

BY KURT REPANSHEK

The nearly eight-foot "Holy Ghost" (opposite, center) is the tallest of 80 figures in Horseshoe Canyon's Great Gallery, a 300-foot mural that David Sucec (above) calls the "Sistine Chapel" of Utah's Barrier Canyon art. Sucec and photographer Craig Law (right) have found more than 275 sites so far.

canyon country each spring and fall. Extreme temperatures prohibit fieldwork the rest of the year. The pair hope to produce a complete record to be used by museums and scholars.

Back when they began, there were thought to be just 160 Barrier Canyon sites on the Colorado Plateau, a vast 130,000-square-mile region that comprises parts of Colorado, Utah, Arizona and New Mexico. At last count, Sucec and Law have visited more than 275 sites, and some rock art connoisseurs believe there could be as many as 400. "I thought it'd take two or three years, and we'd have it done," says Sucec. "We just continued to find more and more sites."

More than 500 million years ago, most of what is now the Colorado Plateau, a landscape of colorful buttes, palisades, rock arches and slender red-rock canyons, was covered by ocean. Although mountains began to rise above sea level some 300 million years ago, they were eroded by wind and water to form massive dunes. Eventually the dunes were compacted by erosion into mountains of sandstone. One example is the San Rafael Swell, where soaring canyon walls became stunning palettes for Barrier Canyon artists.

From about 7500 B.C. to about A.D. 300, according to Navajo Nation archaeologist Phil R. Geib, small bands of people traveled this harsh landscape, surviving on vegetation and whatever small mammals, fish and birds they could catch with snares and nets. Spears and atlatls (devices used to launch long-shafted darts) were used for deer. Artifacts recovered from a cave in Utah in 1975 include pendants and bracelets made from bones, as well as painted stones and clay figurines.

Some archaeologists who have studied the Barrier Canyon images believe they were created between 1900 B.C. and A.D.

PP. 48-49 PATRICK CONE (2); P. 50 CRAIG LAW; P. 51 PATRICK CONE (2); PP. 52, 53 CRAIG LAW

"I thought it'd take two or three years," says Sucec, of documenting the Barrier Canyon artworks (right, 14- by 30-foot Rochester Rock). "We just continued to find more sites." Now he says the project could take between one and two decades.

300, though Alan Watchman, a research fellow at Australian National University, says radiocarbon analysis dates some of them to the Early Archaic period, from about 7430 B.C. to 5260 B.C. Archaeologist Phil Geib also believes the earliest may date to the Archaic period. He notes that a figurine similar in style to Barrier Canyon rock art was recovered in a cave in Utah above a layer of soil dating to around 7500 B.C. A distinctive style of sandals directly associated with the figurine, he says, dates to around 5400 B.C.

It's early morning when I follow Sucec and Law, cradling his tripod like a carbine, into the San Rafael Reef. We slip through a 150-foot-deep cleft in the canyon barely an arm span wide in some places. The walls, fluted by floodwaters, are gray, white, pink, bronze and yellow. After perhaps a quarter mile, we come to an expansive rock-rimmed amphitheater where creosote bushes bloom with yellow blossoms on the canyon floor and canyon wrens flit here and there, alighting briefly in piñon and juniper trees that have somehow found purchase in the sandy soil.

Twenty minutes into the canyon takes us around yet another bend and to the base of a cliff perhaps 1,000 feet high. There, about 200 feet above us, I spy the ancient images. Clambering up a slope of rubble from past rockfalls, we work our way to the paintings, very possibly retracing the steps of the artists who made them. The main panel bears a red rectangular block, an anthropomorphic character with antennae, and what appears to be a bighorn sheep. A second, presumably older set of images features two anthropomorphic beings. While nobody knows for sure what these figures signify, speculation centers on shamanistic or religious figures.

Edging closer, Sucec raises his hand above several streaks obviously made by the artist. "You can actually see how big this person's hand was. My hand is bigger than his," he says. "You can actually see in the smears up here a fingerprint."

One day, as we rest high above the sandy floor of Wild Horse Canyon, I ask Sucec if he and Law will ever find all of the artworks. "Probably not all of them—maybe 90 percent," he answers. There are simply too many sites in too many canyons. And too often, Sucec tells me, the slant of the sun has to be just right for an image even to be spotted. "Sometimes you have to go back two or three times to do a canyon," he says. "This canyon is six miles long. It will take us 10 to 12 days to do this. And there are 10,000 canyons."

*KURT REPANSHEK has written for* Hemispheres *and* Audubon *magazines. This is his first article for* SMITHSONIAN.

# The regime may inflame Washington, but young Iranians say they admire, of all places, America

BY AFSHIN MOLAVI

THE POLICE OFFICER stepped into the traffic, blocking our car. Tapping the hood twice, he waved us to the side of the road. My driver, Amir, who had been grinning broadly to the Persian pop his new speaker system thumped out, turned grim. "I don't have a downtown permit," he said, referring to the official sticker allowing cars in central Tehran at rush hour. "It could be a heavy fine."

We stepped out of the car and approached the officer. He was young, not more than 25, with a peach fuzz mustache. "I'm a journalist from America," I said in Persian. "Please write the ticket in my name. It's my fault."

"You have come from America?" the officer asked. "Do you know Car . . . uh . . . Carson City?"

Carson City? In Nevada?

He crinkled his eyebrows. The word "Nevada" seemed unfamiliar to him. "Near Los Angeles," he said.

Tehran's teens sometimes flout restrictions on dress and contact between unmarried men and women. Two-thirds of Iranians are under 30.

# A NEW DAY IN IRAN?

It's a common reference point. The city hosts the largest Iranian diaspora in the world, and homes across Iran tune in to Persian-language broadcasts from "Tehrangeles" despite regular government efforts to jam the satellite signals. The policeman said his cousin lives in Carson City. Then, after inspecting my press pass, he handed it back to me and ripped up the traffic ticket. "Welcome to Iran," he beamed. "We *love* America."

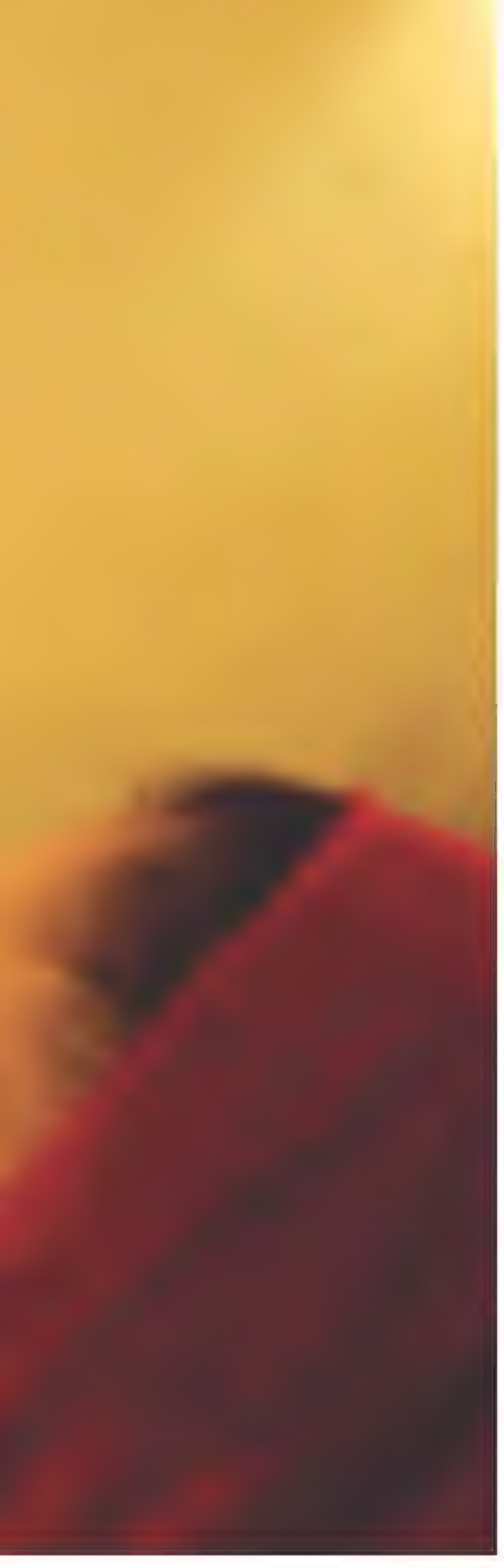
Back in the car, Amir popped in a new tape, by the American rapper Eminem, and we continued on our way to the former U.S. Embassy. It was there, of course, 25 years ago last November, that radical Iranian students took 52 Americans hostage for 444 days, sparking one of the gravest diplomatic crises in U.S. history. The former embassy compound—now a "university" for Iran's most elite military unit, the Revolutionary Guards—was an important stop on my itinerary. I'd gone to Iran to peel back some of the layers of its shifting, sometimes contradictory relations with the United States. America has played an outsized role in Iran over the past century, and is locking horns with Tehran once again over the country's nuclear program.

Perhaps the most striking thing about anti-Americanism in Iran today is how little of it actually exists. After the September 11 attacks, a large, spontaneous candlelight vigil took place in Tehran, where the thousands gathered shouted "Down with terrorists." Nearly three-fourths of the Iranians polled in a 2002 survey said they would like their government to restore dialogue with the United States. (The pollsters—

---

*AFSHIN MOLAVI is a fellow at the New America Foundation, a nonpartisan public policy think tank, and the author of* Persian Pilgrimages: Journeys Across Iran. *He lives in Washington, D.C.*

NEWSHA TAVAKOLIAN / POLARIS; PP. 54, 55 ERIC GRIGORIAN / POLARIS



Despite decades of anti-American propaganda (above, the wall of the former U.S. Embassy), many Iranians express admiration for the United States. Indeed, most citizens (like 24-year-old Maryam, left) are too young to remember the 1979 revolution, or the 444-day hostage crisis that destroyed the two nations' once-close relationship.

BEHROUZ MEHRI / AFP / GETTY IMAGES

one a 1970s firebrand and participant in the hostage-taking who now advocates reform—were arrested and convicted in January 2003 of "making propaganda against the Islamic regime," and they remain imprisoned.) Though hard-line officials urge "Death to America" during Friday prayers, most Iranians seem to ignore the propaganda. "The paradox of Iran is that it just might be the most pro-American—or, perhaps, least anti-American—populace in the Muslim world," says Karim Sadjadpour, an analyst in Tehran for the International Crisis Group, an advocacy organization for conflict resolution based in Brussels.

He is hardly alone. Traveling across Iran over the past five years, I've met many Iranians who said they welcomed the ouster of the American-backed Shah 26 years ago but who were now frustrated by the revolutionary regime's failure to make good on promised political freedoms and economic prosperity. More recently, I've seen Iranians who supported a newer reform movement grow disillusioned after its defeat by hard-liners. Government mismanagement, chronic inflation and unemployment have also contributed to mistrust of the regime and, with it, its anti-Americanism. "I struggle to make a living," a Tehran engineer told me. "The government stifles us, and they want us to believe it is America's fault. I'm not a fool."

Amir, who is 30, feels the same way. "In my school, the teachers gathered us in the playground and told us to chant 'Death to America.' It was a chore. Naturally, it became boring. Our government has failed to deliver what we want: a normal life, with good jobs and basic freedoms. So I stopped listening to them. America is not the problem. *They* are."

It's increasingly apparent that Iran's young are tuning out a preachy government for an alternative world of personal Web logs (Persian is the third most commonly used language on the Internet, after English and Chinese), private parties, movies, study, and dreams of emigrating to the West. These disenchanted "children of the revolution" make up the bulk of Iran's population, 70 percent of which is under 30. Too young to remember the anti-American sentiment of the '70s, they share little of their parents' ideology. While young Iranians of an earlier generation once revered Che Guevara and romanticized guerrilla movements, students on today's college campuses tend to shun politics and embrace practical goals such as getting a job or admission into a foreign graduate school. Some 150,000 Iranian professionals leave the country each year—one of the highest rates of brain drain in the Middle East. Meanwhile, Iranian intellectuals are quietly rediscovering American authors and embracing values familiar to any American civics student—separation of church and state, an independent judiciary and a strong presidency.

But intellectuals are not running the show, and the government continues to clash with the United States. In a Jan-

Iranian reformers draw inspiration from the legacy of Iranian patriot Mohammad Mossadegh (on placard above), who advocated democracy but criticized U.S. meddling before his death in 1967. Former revolutionary Mohsen Mirdamadi (opposite, below, right) says he wants dialogue with America to resume.

uary interview, Vice President Dick Cheney said Iran was "right at the top of the list" of potential trouble spots. The most recent crisis is Iran's alleged nuclear weapons program. At issue is whether Iran has the right to enrich uranium—important for a civilian nuclear energy program, but also crucial to creating an atomic bomb.

Recent news reports suggest the Bush administration has not ruled out military action, including an airstrike on the nuclear facility by Israeli or American forces. It wouldn't be the first in the region—in 1981, Israeli jets bombed a nuclear reactor at Osirak in Iraq, prompting condemnation from the U.N. and the United States. Iranian president Mohammad Khatami described the idea of an American strike in Iran as "madness," noting that Iran had "plans" to defend itself. A strike would likely provoke Iran's government to retaliate, possibly against Americans in nearby Iraq or Afghanistan, setting off a cycle of violence with uncertain consequences. One thing's for sure: Iran's government would use an attack as an excuse to crack down once again, perhaps even declaring martial law.

AFTER A FEW DAYS IN TEHRAN, I headed for Tabriz, known for its cool mountain air, succulent stews and reformist politics. It was a homecoming for me: I was born in Tabriz in 1970, when thousands of American businessmen, teachers, Peace Corps volunteers and military contractors called Iran home. I left with my parents for the United States when I was almost 2 years old. It wasn't until the late 1990s that I got to know the place again—first while reporting for Reuters and the *Washington Post*, then while researching a book on contemporary Iran. I was the only "American" that many Iranians had ever met. "Why do the Americans hate us?" they often asked me. After my book was published in 2002, I received dozens of letters from Americans who'd worked in Iran before the 1979 revolution and who remembered the country and its people with deep fondness. Clearly, there remained a lot of goodwill as well as misunderstanding between Iranians and Americans.

Situated on the northern route from Tehran to Europe, Tabriz has long been an incubator for new ideas. In the late 19th century, intellectuals, merchants and reformist clergy in both Tehran and Tabriz had begun openly criticizing Iran's corrupt Qajar monarchs, who mismanaged the state's resources and gave large concessions to foreign powers. Iran was a vital piece in the geopolitical struggle between Russia and Britain to gain influence in Asia, and the two powers carved the country into spheres of influence in a 1907 agreement. At the time, Iranian reformers, frustrated by royal privilege and foreign interference, advocated a written constitution and a representative Parliament, and they sparked Iran's Constitutional Revolution of 1906-11.

The affection that many liberal Iranians have for America has roots in Tabriz, where a Nebraskan missionary named Howard Baskerville was martyred. Baskerville was a teacher in the American School, one of many such institutions created by the American missionaries who'd worked in the city since the mid-19th century. He arrived in 1908, fresh out of Princeton and, swept up in the revolutionary mood, fought a royalist blockade that was starving the city. On April 19, 1909, he led a contingent of 150 nationalist fighters into battle against the royalist forces. A single bullet tore through his heart, killing him instantly nine days after his 24th birthday.

Many Iranian nationalists still revere Baskerville as an exemplar of an America that they saw as a welcome ally and a useful "third force" that might break the power of London and Moscow in Tehran. Yet I found few signs of America's historic presence in Tabriz. One day, I tried to pay a visit to Baskerville's tomb, which is at a local church. Blocking my way was a beefy woman with blue eyes and a red head scarf.

ALI KHALIGH

She told me I needed a permit. Why? "Don't ask me, ask the government," she said, and closed the door.

I WENT TO AHMAD ABAD, a farming town 60 miles west of Tehran, to meet the grandson of Mohammad Mossadegh, whose legacy still towers over U.S.-Iran relations nearly 40 years after his death.

Mossadegh, a Swiss-educated descendant of the Qajar dynasty, was elected prime minister in 1951 on a nationalist platform, and he soon became a hero for defying the British, whose influence in Iran had aroused resentment and anger for more than half a century. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, which monopolized Iran's oil production, treated Iranians with imperial disdain, regularly paying more in taxes to the British government than they did in royalties to Iran. Mossadegh, after fruitless attempts to renegotiate the terms of the oil concession, stood up in Parliament in 1951 and declared that he was nationalizing Iran's oil industry. Overnight he emerged as a paragon of resistance to imperialism. *Time* magazine celebrated him as 1951's "Man of the Year," describing him as a "strange old wizard" who "gabbled a defiant challenge that sprang out of a hatred and envy almost incomprehensible to the west."

Mossadegh's move so frightened the United States and Britain that Kermit Roosevelt, grandson of President Theodore Roosevelt and FDR's distant cousin, turned up in Tehran in 1953 on a secret CIA mission to overthrow the Mossadegh government. Together with royalist generals, Iranian merchants on London's payroll and mobs for hire, Roosevelt organized a coup that managed to overwhelm Mossadegh's supporters in the army and among the people in a street battle that ebbed and flowed for several days. Mohammad Reza Shah, only the second shah in the Pahlavi dynasty, had fled to Rome when the fighting began. When it stopped, he returned to Tehran and reclaimed his power from Parliament. The coup, which Iranians later learned had been engineered by the United States, turned many Iranians against America. It was no longer viewed as a bulwark against British and Russian encroachment but the newest foreign meddler. Mossadegh was tried for treason in a military court, and in 1953 was sentenced to three years in jail. He remained under house arrest in Ahmad Abad, quietly tending his garden, until his death in 1967.

ALI KHALIGH; TIMELINE: HULTON-DEUTSCH COLLECTION / CORBIS (2); TIME LIFE PICTURES / GETTY IMAGES; BETTMANN / CORBIS; AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS; MOHAMMAD SAYAD / AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS; SETBOUN / CORBIS

## PERSIAN POINTS IN TIME 1900-2005

1900

**1906** Constitutional Revolution establishes Iran's first Parliament.

1910

**1921** Military commander Reza Khan topples Ahmad Shah (above, 1909) of the Qajar dynasty that has ruled for almost 150 years.

1920

**1925** Reza Khan names himself Shah of Iran, first of the Pahlavi dynasty.

1930

**1935** Country's name officially changes from Persia to Iran.

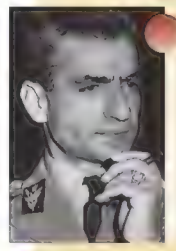
**1951** Prime Minister Mohammad Mossadegh nationalizes oil industry. Britain retaliates with a trade embargo, leading to economic collapse.

1940

**1941-1945** Allies deem Reza Khan sympathetic to Nazis and force him to abdicate to his son Mohammad Reza. Allies use Iran as a supply line to Russia.

1950

**1953** The Mossadegh government is overthrown in a CIA-British-backed coup; Mohammad Reza Shah, who had fled, returns to power.



**1963** The Shah begins the "White Revolution," an ambitious—and controversial—modernization program. Opponents are repressed.

1960

1970

**1979** The Shah is toppled in an Islamic revolution, establishing the Islamic Republic of Iran as a theocracy under the rule of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Fifty-two Americans are taken hostage at the U.S. Embassy.

1980

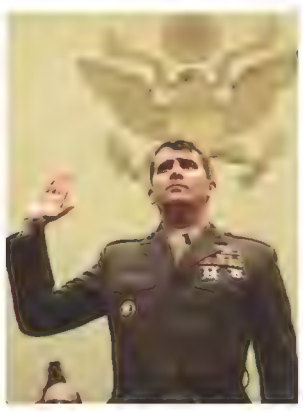
**1980** Attempted rescue of hostages fails; eight U.S. servicemen die.

**1980** Iraq invades Iran, sparking an eight-year war that kills an estimated 500,000. America backs Iraq with military intelligence but supplies weapons to both sides.

**1981** American hostages are released after 444 days in captivity.

1985

**1985** Secret arms deals conducted between the U.S. and Iran later becomes known as the Iran-Contra affair.



1990

**1988** Iran and Iraq sign a cease-fire agreement.

**1995** Accusing Iran of sponsoring terrorism, the United States bans all trade with the nation.

1995

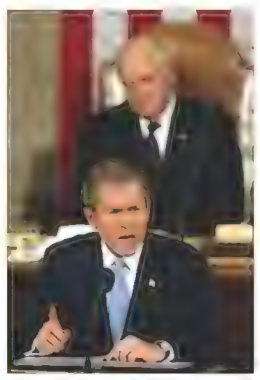
**1997** Reformist Mohammad Khatami is elected president by a landslide.

**2000** Reformists win 70 percent of Parliament seats. Hard-line judiciary begins crackdown on newspaper editors and dissidents, leading to newspaper closures and arrests.

2000

**2001** President Khatami is reelected in a landslide victory.

**2002** President George W. Bush lists Iran, together with North Korea and Iraq, as part of the "Axis of Evil."



**2004** Conservatives regain control of Parliament after thousands of reformist candidates are disqualified. The International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) rebukes Iran for failing to cooperate with nuclear inspections.

2005

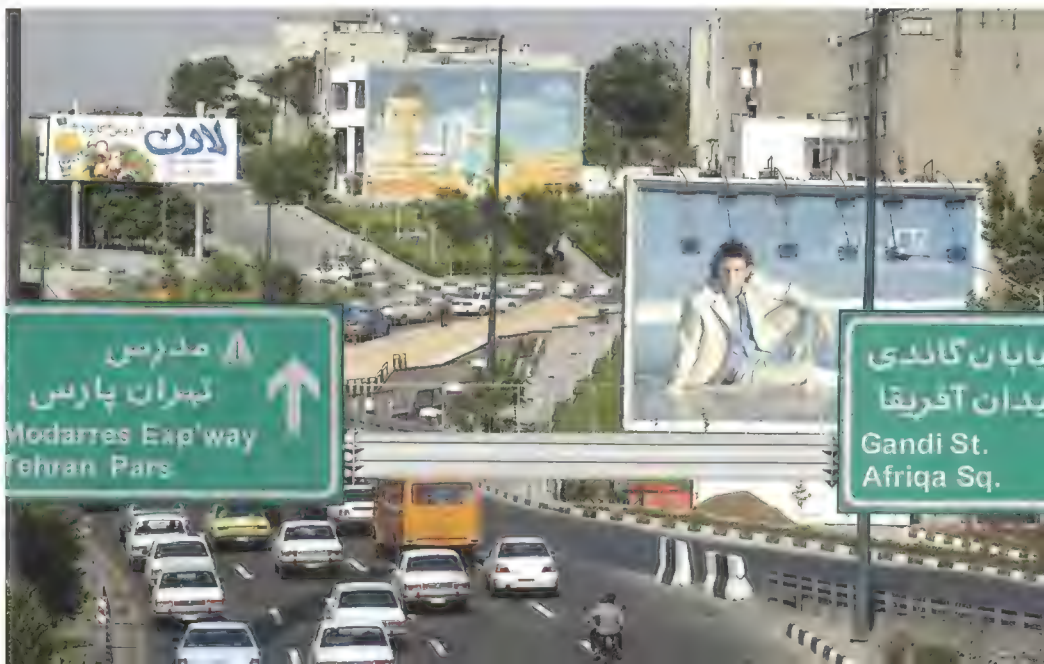
**2005** Iran allows IAEA inspections in January.

In the 1960s, the Shah began an aggressive, U.S.-backed modernization effort, from antimalaria programs to creating the SAVAK, the country's feared internal security service. As Britain pulled out of the region in the 1960s, Iran became the guardian of the Persian Gulf. Iran-U.S. relations were never better. Yet while Iran's economy boomed, democracy withered. The Shah stifled all political opposition, dismissing or repressing opponents as enemies of the state. The 1979 revolution, led by religious fundamentalists, took him by surprise. Today, Iranians look back on the Shah's era with a mingling of nostalgia, regret and anger. "He certainly ran the economy better than these mullahs," one Tehran resident told me. "But he was too arrogant and too unwilling to share political power."

Mossadegh, in contrast, was more of a democrat at heart. Even though his reforms were modest, he is respected today for his nationalism and tough stance against foreign interlopers. Today, his admirers regularly make the trek (some call it a pilgrimage) to his tomb. I went there early one Friday morning with Ali Mossadegh, the prime minister's great-grandson. As we toured the worn, creaking house, I asked Ali, who is in his late 20s, what he considered his great-grandfather's legacy. "He showed Iranians that they, too, deserve independence and democracy and prosperity," he said. He then led me to an adjoining annex where Mossadegh's tombstone rests amid a mound of Persian carpets. The walls were covered with photographs of the prime minister: making fiery speeches in Parliament; defending himself in a military court after the coup; gardening in Ahmad Abad. Ali pointed to an inscription taken from one of Mossadegh's speeches: "If, in our home, we will not have freedom and foreigners will dominate us, then down with this existence."

THE HIGH WALL surrounding the former U.S. Embassy, which occupies two Tehran blocks, bears numerous slogans. "On that day when the U.S. of A will praise us, we should mourn." "Down with USA." The seizing of the hostages here in 1979 was only the beginning of a crisis that shook American politics to its core.

After a six-month standoff, President Jimmy Carter authorized a rescue mission that ended disastrously after a helicopter collided with a transport plane in the Dasht-e-Kavir




NEWSHA TAVAKOLIAN / POLARIS; TIMELINE: AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS; RICHARD MELLOUL / SYGMA / CORBIS; WALLY MCNAMEE / CORBIS; MARTAM AMOUZEGAR / CORBIS; VAHID SALEMI / AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS; DOUG MILLS / AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS

Political philosopher Ramin Jahanbegloo (right), who believes in the separation of church and state, says secular thinkers are in great demand on college campuses. In Tehran (below, opposite) dissent is emerging. "The government stifles us, and they want us to believe it is America's fault," one resident says. "I'm not a fool."

desert in north-central Iran, killing eight Americans. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance, who had opposed the operation, resigned. Carter, shaken by the failure, was defeated in the 1980 election by Ronald Reagan. The hostages were freed on the day of Reagan's inauguration. Still, Iran was regarded by the United States and others as an outlaw state.

Adjacent to the compound, a bookstore sells religious literature, anti-American screeds and bound copies of American diplomatic files painstakingly rebuilt from shredded documents. The place is usually empty of customers. When I bought a series of books entitled *Documents from the U.S. Espionage Den*, the chador-clad woman behind the desk looked surprised. The books were covered with a thin film of dust, which she wiped away with a wet napkin.

Mohsen Mirdamadi, who was a student in Tehran in the 1970s, was one of the hostage-takers. "When I entered university in 1973, there was a lot of political tension," he told me. "Most students, like me, were anti-Shah and, as a result, we were anti-American, because the U.S. was supporting the Shah's dictatorship." I asked him if he regretted his actions. "Clearly, our actions might have hurt us economically because it led to a disruption of relations, but I don't regret it," he said. "I think it was necessary for that time. After all, America had overthrown one Iranian government. Why wouldn't they try again?"

Bruce Laingen, who was the chargé d'affaires at the U.S. Embassy when he was taken as a hostage, said he had no orders to work to destabilize the new government, contrary to what the revolutionaries alleged. "Quite the contrary," the now-retired diplomat told me. "My mandate was to make clear that we had accepted the revolution and were ready to move on." One hostage-taker, he remembers, told him angrily: "You complain about being a hostage, but your government took an entire country hostage in 1953."

The passage of time has cooled Mirdamadi's zeal, and today he is an informal adviser to Iranian president Mohammad Khatami, who inspired Iranians in 1997 with his calls for greater openness. Elected by landslides in both 1997 and 2001 despite clerics' efforts to influence the outcome, Khatami has lost much of his popularity as religious conservatives have blocked his reforms. In any event, Khatami's power is limited. Real authority is wielded by a group of six clerics and six Islamic jurists called the Guardian Council, which oversaw the selection of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei as the country's supreme spiritual leader in 1989. The council has the power to block the passage of laws as well as prevent candidates from running for the presidency or the Parliament. Mirdamadi, like Khatami, says Iran deserves a government that combines democratic and Islamic principles. "We need real democracy," he told me, "not authoritarian dictates from above." He advocates the resumption of dialogue with the United States, though specifics are unclear. His reformist views won him a parliamentary seat five years ago, but in the 2004 elections he was among the 2,500 candidates the Guardian Council barred.

A PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION is scheduled for June, and social critics in Iran as well as international analysts say a free and fair contest is unlikely. With many Iranians expected to stay away from the polls in protest, a conservative victory is almost guaranteed. But what flavor of conservative? A religious hard-liner close to current supreme leader Khamenei? Or someone advocating a "China-style" approach, with limited cultural, social and economic liberalization coupled with continued political repression? No matter what, neither is likely to share power with secular democrats or even Islamist reformers like Mirdamadi. And the clerics' grasp on power is firm: Reporters Without Borders, Human Rights Watch,

NEWSHA TAVAKOLIAN / POLARIS

Many Iranians' hopes for change were dashed when 2,500 reform-minded candidates for Parliament were barred from running by ruling clerics. Experts say belief in the political process (election posters, right) is at an all-time low.

Amnesty International and the U.S. State Department have all sharply criticized Iranian officials for their use of torture and arbitrary imprisonment.

There's ample evidence that many ordinary Iranians are fed up with the involvement of Muslim clerics in government. "During the Constitutional Revolution, we talked about the separation of religion and state, without really knowing what that means," historian Kaveh Bayat told me in his book-filled Tehran study. "Our understanding today is much deeper. Now we know that it is neither in our interests nor the clergy's interest to rule the state." Or, as a physician in Tehran put it to me: "The mullahs, by failing, did what Ataturk could not even do in Turkey: secularize the populace thoroughly. Nobody wants to experiment with religion and politics anymore."

Ramin Jahanbegloo, one of Iran's leading secular intellectuals, agrees. "I am constantly being invited by university students to speak at their events," he told me over mounds of saffron-flecked rice and turmeric-soaked chicken at a Tehran cafeteria. "Just a few years ago they invited predominantly religious reformers. Now, they want secular democrats."

In Qom, Iran's holy city and home of the largest collection of religious seminaries in Iran, I spoke with a shopkeeper who sold religious trinkets and prayer stones just outside the stunning blue-tiled mosque of Hazrat-e-Masoumeh. He was a religious man, he said, and that's precisely why he felt religion should stay out of politics. "Politics is dirty," he said. "It only corrupts people."

I browsed several seminary bookstores in Qom, where I spotted titles ranging from Islamic jurisprudence to Khomeini's legacy. A bookstore owner told me that the ideas of reformist clergy are much more popular than the pronouncements of conservative mullahs. And translated American self-help books by the likes of motivational guru Anthony Robbins outsell political tracts. But the owner keeps the hottest commodities discreetly in a back corner. There I saw technical texts on sex and female anatomy. He just smiled sheepishly and shrugged his shoulders.

IRAN TODAY is at a turning point. Either the Islamic revolution must mellow and embrace political change, or face a reckoning down the road when hard-line clerics come into conflict with the secular, democratic ideals of the younger generation. But though the influence of religion in politics is under assault in Iran, national pride remains a potent force. In a recent poll of dozens of countries published in *Foreign Policy* magazine, 92 percent of Iranians claimed to be "very proud" of their nationality (compared with 72 percent of Americans).

To get a glimpse of raw Iranian patriotism, a good place to go is a soccer stadium. Back in Tehran, I went to a Germany-Iran exhibition game at the Azadi stadium with my friend Hossein, a veteran of Iran's brutal 1980-88 war with Iraq, and his sons and brother. The atmosphere gave me a new appreciation for Iran's reality: a fierce tension between a populace ready for change and a regime so shackled by ideological zeal and anti-American sentiment it can't compromise.

Hossein, like many Iranians who served in the war, resents America for supporting Iraq in the conflict: Washington provided Saddam Hussein's regime with satellite images of Iranian troop movements and cities, looked the other way as Iraq used chemical weapons on Iranian soldiers and, in 1983, sent then-businessman Donald Rumsfeld as a presidential envoy to Iraq, where he greeted Saddam Hussein with a handshake. But Hossein, who served as a frontline soldier, said he's willing to for-

DAMIR SAGOLJ / REUTERS / CORBIS

give and forget "as long as America does not attack Iran."

In the traffic jam leading to the stadium, young men leaned out of car windows and chanted "Iran! Iran! Iran!" Once inside, several doors to the arena were blocked. Crowds grew antsy, and a few hurled insults at police patrols. When a group of bearded young men—members of the Basij volunteer militia, linked to conservative religious figures—sauntered to the front of the line and passed through the gate, the crowd roared its disapproval. (I saw this frustration again later, when a parking attendant outside the stadium demanded a fee. "You are killing us with your fees!" Hossein's brother shouted at the man. "Don't the mullahs have enough money?")

Finally, the gates flew open and we stampeded into the stadium, clutching Hossein's young sons by the hands. At halftime, the chairman of the German football federation presented a check to the mayor of Bam, a city in southeastern Iran devastated by an earthquake that killed 30,000 people in 2003. "That will help the mayor pay for his new Benz," one man near me joked.

Throughout the game, which Germany won, 2-0, large loudspeakers blasted government-approved techno music. The mostly young men filling the 100,000 seats swayed to the beat. A small group near us banged on drums. The music stopped, and an announcer recited from the Koran, but most people continued chatting with one another, appearing to ignore the verses. When the music came back on, the crowd cheered.

On the remote Alaskan archipelago, scientists and Aleuts are trying to find the causes of a worrisome decline in fur seals

*BY DOUG O'HARRA*

# A PUZZLE IN THE PRIBILOFS

GALE-FORCE WINDS from the Bering Sea's first fall storm scoured St. Paul Island in Alaska's Pribilofs, a stunning archipelago of ancient volcanoes and sweeping tundra 310 miles from the mainland. But amid the thundering ten-foot waves and shattering spray, hundreds of northern fur seals played with nimble abandon. Noses aloft, flippers up, they bobbed in the swells, as buoyant and nonchalant as birds on a thermal. They jostled, squirmed, slammed into each other. Individual seals skimmed down breaking waves like sleek brown torpedoes. Collapsing rollers revealed glistening brown animals, some of them females returning to the island to nurse after foraging 150 miles out to sea.

Onshore, the half mile of beach was alive with seals. Youngsters tossed strands of kelp and wrestled; cows lounged with bellies exposed, nursing their pups; bulls galumphed into grassy nooks and sprawled out to snooze. A ripe fishy odor saturated the cold wind, and whickering moans, grunts and bawls rose above the ocean's roar.

Vostochni Rookery, birthplace of 18,872 pups in 2004, home to a rowdy and tireless herd, was simply teeming, the largest concentration of northern fur seals in the United States. And yet, to a practiced eye, something was wrong.

Thousands of animals were missing.

DUSTIN JONES, the 24-year-old son of a sea lion hunter and part of a new generation of young Aleuts looking after the island for his tribe, stood bareheaded in the October chill and scanned Vostochni Rookery with binoculars and a spotting scope. The scene made him shake his head in disbelief. Grass was now sprouting in places pounded to hardpan by seals only a year or two earlier. Boulders once polished by the bodies of nursing females were gathering moss. Where 600-pound bulls and their harems had

The Pribilof Islands were home to two million to three million fur seals at the animals' peak in the 1800s. Today, their numbers (right, seals on St. Paul) have slid to about 688,000.

PP. 64-65 CLARK JAMES MISHLER (2)

jammed the beach, hummocks grew brushy and thick.

Jones, who was raised on St. Paul and has a stocky build and wears an earring, serves as the Tanalix Amgignax (Island Sentinel), a sort of ecosystem scout for the village's tribal government—patrolling beaches, watching animals, recording what he sees.

Jones took his first sea lion at age 12 with his father and spent countless weekends afoot with his grandfather, the island's magistrate and a popular tourist guide. To him, the scene at the rookery confirmed what his grandfather had been warning the local government about all those years. "He knew the seals were decreasing," Jones said.

The latest figures, based on seal counts taken in the animals' summer habitats on Pribilof beaches, would prove him right. A population that may have once numbered two million to three million in the 19th century—and saw a 20th-century high of 2.1 million in 1951—had slid to about 688,000. "This is just empty," Jones said, as he tucked away his spotting scope and prepared to drive to another beach. "It's unbelievable. They're usually just packed all the way up the grass."

CONSTITUTING at least two-thirds of the world's entire northern fur seal population, the Pribilof herd dominates an extraordinary collection of wildlife found on the archipelago and in the surrounding Bering Sea—10 species of seals, sea lions and walruses, 17 types of whales and dolphins, millions of nesting seabirds such as kittiwakes, murres and puffins—that makes the islands a sort of northern Galápagos.

A migratory species, the seals spend half the year foraging across the North Pacific Ocean, returning to local rookeries in the spring and summer to breed and raise their pups. "They've been leaving here alive, but they haven't been coming back," says Aquilina Lestenkof, a lifelong Pribilof resident and co-director of the ecosystem conservation office for the St. Paul Island tribal government. "Where are they going? What are they doing there? Are they getting enough to eat?"

Though the Pribilof seals are falling in number, they are not in danger of extinction—at least not yet. In 1988, fur seals were listed as "depleted" under the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act. Since 1998, the number born on Pribilof beaches has dropped almost 6 percent a year, compounding a trend that has continued off and on for half a century. And they aren't the only Alaska marine animals showing signs of drops. Steller's sea lions have crashed by 80 percent since the 1970s; sea otters have almost disappeared from the Aleutians. Certain seabirds have plummeted too, and fish stocks are changing.

"Going back into the 1950s and '60s, it's all part of one larger decline that's not really well understood," says Rolf Ream, a zoologist at the National Marine Mammal Laboratory in Seattle. "There really is no reason that it should be continuing, and what's really more shocking is that it hasn't shown any sign of recovery. There are just very few ideas, and part of the problem is that we really don't have a lot of the data we need."

The northern fur seal, *Callorhinus ursinus*, is a cousin to eight other fur seal species found mainly in the Southern Hemisphere. Along with five types of sea lions—closely related animals with large bodies, coarser fur and more rounded snouts—this gregarious, harem-building marine predator belongs to the Otariidae family, thought to have diverged from a bearlike terrestrial ancestor about 25 million years ago. Unlike true seals, such as the harbor and ringed species, the Otariidae sport external ears and the ability to rotate hind flippers forward beneath their bodies so they can walk and climb on land. Females can live a quarter-century or more, while males rarely live beyond 16 or 17.

Like other herd-dwelling pinnipeds, fur seals follow a yearly cycle that begins in May when the 450- to 600-pound bulls return to the rookery to stake out prime breeding turf. The much smaller adult females return in June and usually within two days, give birth to a single 10- to 14-pound pup. Within a week, the adults mate. For nearly two months, the largest and most dominant bulls fight bloody, bellowing battles to defend their territories and keep other bulls away. During that time, the rookery takes on a complex structure that a researcher must carefully navigate in order to collect dead pups for study and to avoid the dangerous kings of the shore. By October, the pups begin to wean. About the same time, the seals start to scatter, with females, pups and juveniles migrating farthest, south of the Aleutian chain into the North Pacific.

Intelligent and at times aggressive, fur seals are agile on both sea and shore. But their most remarkable characteristic almost led to their demise: their dense waterproof underfur. The pursuit of this luxurious pelt by Russian and American traders in the 18th and 19th centuries twice pushed the seals to the edge of extinction. Between the early 1890s and 1909, an average of about 33,000 seals were killed each year in the Bering Sea, most of them females foraging for food. The U.S.

---

*DOUG O'HARRA, a senior reporter for the* Anchorage Daily News, *has covered everything from melting glaciers to bear maulings to sled dog racing for the newspaper. This is his first story for* SMITHSONIAN.

MIKE REAGAN

A 19th-century observer once said of counting the seals that packed Pribilof beaches (above, left, in 1955): "It would be [easier] to calculate the number of bees in and around a hive." Harvest for their once-fashionable furs (a 1917 illustration, below) ended in 1984, but the mammals' numbers have continued to dwindle, causing scientists and Aleuts such as Dustin Jones (above, right) to worry.

commercial harvest alone (probably in excess of $200 million from the late 1860s to 1984) repaid Alaska's $7.2 million purchase price 28 times over.

Then, almost a century ago, estimates that only 200,000 to 300,000 fur seals remained in the world mobilized conservationists and inspired the first international effort by governments to protect marine life. In 1911, the United States, Great Britain (acting for Canada), Japan and Russia signed the Treaty for the Preservation and Protection of Fur Seals and Sea Otters. It prohibited killing seals at sea except by Indians, Aleuts and other aborigines using primitive weapons. Congress halted all onshore hunting of seals on the Pribilof Islands between 1912 and 1917 except for subsistence hunting by local Natives. The animals rebounded at a tremendous rate, and the U.S. government reinstated an annual harvest on land, which ranged from about 34,890 seals in 1918 to 95,000 in 1941.

That year, Japan pulled out of the treaty, arguing, in part, that the seals had grown so numerous that they had begun to harm Japanese fisheries, but in 1957 the four original signatories ratified a new treaty. At that time, U.S. biologists successfully argued that cutting the number of female seals would decrease the age when the animals first became pregnant, contributing to an increase in pup numbers and survival. About 300,000 Pribilof females were killed between 1956 and 1968 on land, and another 16,000 were taken at sea for research between 1958 and 1974.

But the herd didn't respond as expected, and the population began to slide. Even after the female take ceased, numbers kept trending down, and government biologists ended the commercial harvests on St. George in 1973 and began a long-term program to monitor the island. A ferocious public campaign against killing the seals, combined with shrinking markets for their fur and the lapse of the 1957 treaty, would end the commercial harvest altogether in the Pribilofs by 1984. Native residents have since been allowed to kill a small number of juvenile male seals for food.

Once the industrial harvest ended, funding for the study of these mammals plummeted. In 2004, the National Marine Mammal Lab—charged with conducting a census of the population and monitoring its status—had virtually no budget for fur seal research. "We call it the 'Pribilof Islands Program,' but it's just me handling the management end and Rolf [Ream] and his bunch from the lab doing the research," says Dave Cormany, who administers the program from Anchorage with long visits to St. Paul.

SORTING OUT POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS for the fur seal decline is as difficult as disentangling the fishing nets that often snag driftwood and entrap overcurious pups. Scientists have speculated that development of new harbors and industry on St. Paul may be disturbing seals. Competition with commercial fishing is another possibility, especially since seals forage in many of the same areas as the pollock fleet. But commercial species like pollock remain high in the Bering Sea, and it's not clear how fishing might be

HULTON ARCHIVE / GETTY IMAGES; DOUG O'HARRA; HULTON ARCHIVE / GETTY IMAGES

taking food from the seals. Confounding it all, even as their numbers keep falling, the seals that do return to the Pribilofs appear healthy. "We're sitting up here and we're seeing animals, and they seem to be in decent condition, and I haven't seen a change in that," says Ream, who has been working in the Pribilofs for 16 seasons. "We don't see them in winter, but they tend to be showing up fine. I mean, there are a lot of fat pups out there."

Further complicating the mystery are other changes across the Bering Sea and the Gulf of Alaska. About 1976, Alaska's ocean underwent a "regime shift," in the latest turn of a long-running natural climate cycle called the Pacific Decadal Oscillation. After rapidly warming, a sea once swimming with fatty forage fish like herring and capelin eventually became dominated by pollock, Atka mackerel and flatfish. But seals didn't decline so dramatically during previous regime shifts. Why not? No one has a firm answer.

Humans also have forced changes across the region. Thousands of whales were slaughtered and fish stocks depleted in the decades following World War II. One theory argues that the loss of these whales ultimately forced killer whales to switch to smaller prey like seals, sea lions and otters. But many marine mammal biologists strongly disagree.

Ream and others speculate that something has been killing off or weakening juvenile seals during their first winters in the ocean. Or possibly females have been miscarrying the next generation during their eight months in the North Pacific Ocean, setting off a downward spiral that compounds each year with fewer maturing females available to breed. One scientist has speculated that there might be a food "bottleneck"—not enough fish of the right size and kind—for seals during their migration. But no one yet has come up with conclusive evidence for any of these theories.

St. Paul's leaders have long warned of the seals' demise. Aleut activist Larry Merculieff (below) fears they may "decline beyond the point of recovery." Conservationist Aquilina Lestenkof (bottom) says that "there's more to know than we know."

"We've been dealing with these changes for 25 years," says Larry Merculieff, a former St. Paul community leader and now deputy director of the Alaska Native Science Commission, an organization that oversees research and gathers observations by Natives, other residents and scientists. "I am concerned that we won't know what is going on with the fur seals until they decline beyond the point of recovery—since managers don't act without adequate scientific proof."

Karin Holser, the coordinator of the Pribilof Islands Stewardship Program, which recruits school kids and teenagers to clean up beaches, cut away plastic and rope from entangled seals, and help gather data, says she is frustrated also. "I see the seals crashing, and I don't see anything happening," says Holser. "How can you have a zero budget for seals when you can see them going down?"

The urgency appears to have caught on. The Pribilof Island Collaborative, a group of Natives, scientists, conservationists and fishing industry representatives, has been pushing for more money to investigate fur seals. And the Congressionally mandated North Pacific Research Board and the industry-funded Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center have asked scientists to submit proposals for research. Most important, millions of dollars in federal money previously limited to sea lions will also become available this year to investigate fur seals.

Another resource may come from tapping the insights of the Pribilof Aleuts; their lives have intertwined with fur seals for more than two centuries. They need to take a larger role in managing local populations, says Aquilina Lestenkof, who has become a leader in a movement to merge Native ways of seeing the environment with Western science. Her late father, the Very Rev. Michael Lestenkof, served for a generation as the village's American Orthodox priest and was widely respected as a man who knew a great deal about seals. He questioned the pruning of females in the 1950s and '60s because it contradicted traditional knowledge and practice.

YVA MOMATIUK AND JOHN EASTCOTT (2)

# To Catch a Seal

## Netting the agile, intelligent and aggressive animals for study requires stealth . . . and lots of fancy footwork

Clad in heavy rain gear, zoologist Rolf Ream peeked over the rim of a rock outcrop and watched the shifting, milling bodies across a 100-yard stretch of beach at Vostochni Rookery. Tonya Zeppelin, a biologist, crouched beside him, scanning the herd with binoculars. "There," Zeppelin said. "I see her."

A female seal with cellphone-size satellite and radio tags glued to her outer fur lay on a rock nursing a pup. She is one of 39 animals in a study to uncover more detail about where lactating females on St. Paul and St. George travel during foraging trips away from their newborn pups. Such research by Ream and others has already found, among other things, that adult males likely "cue" off currents to find their way across vast reaches of ocean, that seals from particular rookeries and islands forage in different areas, sometimes hundreds of miles apart. They've also discovered that young males range farther than lactating females and that pregnant females sometimes roam halfway across the North Pacific in their winter-long quest for food. Ream, in collaboration with another scientist, has also started a tracking study to compare the migration and condition of the declining herd on St. Paul with seals 200 miles to the south on Alaska's volcanic Bogoslof Island, whose tiny but thriving population may be increasing by more than 50 percent per season.

For now, though, how do three people snatch an agile seal with a cranky attitude and a teething baby? By sneaking close, capture nets in hand—ready to dash or dive if charged. "They're just a little more skittish in fall than summer," said Ream, who is a veteran of more than 100 seal captures. "In July, you have to watch out, because they'll come after you."

There's something eerie about crouching close to the rookery: hundreds of pairs of eyes follow your every step. "I think these guys are real smart," Ream would say later. "You see these pups playing and playing—chasing birds, throwing feathers, tugging on kelp. They seem like they have a sense of humor." Creeping through the herd sometimes takes on aspects of an elaborate dance. Ream explains that if you sense agitation, you need to squat and wait. As though on cue, seals about to stampede will often switch from near-panic to curiosity, then move closer with wide dark eyes and indignant barks. Sometimes, he says, it's difficult to know who's the real study subject.

Zeppelin began moving toward the seals, half crouching, clutching a large capture net. Another team member, Jim Thomason, was crawling over driftwood and boulders at the surf in a flanking maneuver. A massive bull suddenly charged Zeppelin, rising over her, head back and teeth out, bellowing. She crouched, head down. The bull calmed, looked her over and moved off.

A few yards farther, Zeppelin leapt up and dashed for the female, vaulting rocks and sidestepping seals. In moments she and Ream had carried the thrashing animal to a holding board—a hinged trap with a diamond-shaped opening to keep the seal in place—to be examined. But the seal emerged from the net in unexpected fury, ducked the noose, and ran.

Seals' rear flippers are almost all webbed toes, powerfully hinged at the ankle, enabling the animals to scamper across broken ground with astonishing speed. But Ream cornered this one against a rock wall. For a moment, man and seal advanced and retreated like fencers. Finally, the zoologist lunged and dropped the noose, then dragged the animal back to the wooden board. Thomason shut the hinged trap over the seal's head.

With Zeppelin astride the animal's back, Thomason shaved about $1,800 worth of tracking equipment from her fur and handed it to Ream. They weighed and measured her, splayed out her flippers, examined the muscle and fur where the tracking tag had been placed. She was four feet long. At 84 pounds, she had neither gained nor lost weight in the six weeks since Ream and his co-workers first captured her.

When they finished and flipped open the trap, the animal whirled, growling, facing down the humans for a few seconds before bolting for the rocks—and her pup. "She had some spunk," Ream said, laughing. "A little bit of attitude."

DOUG O'HARRA

"Every one of them is feisty," says biologist Jim Thomason (right, with Rolf Ream and Tonya Zeppelin) of his seal subjects. "Every one of them you pick up tries to bite you."

In a moment of rare camaraderie, young males block a St. Paul road. Upon maturity, breeding males go from friends to foes as they fight in bloody battles over territory. Naturalist Georg Wilhelm Steller wrote: "A sea bear is seldom seen that is not marked with a wound."

Remembering his misgivings, she wonders what knowledge of the ocean and its food died with those old, wise females. "There's more to know than we know," she says. "There's more than we understand right now."

SOME 525 PEOPLE live in the village of St. Paul, spread among 170 houses and apartment buildings on two facing hills, with the harbor, corporate offices and warehouses, and a school in between. Bikes lean unlocked against buildings and homes, and children play in shirt-sleeves outside the school. People greet strangers on foot with a cheerful wave.

Arctic foxes scramble up a dirt lane past a battered old house, a new Honda four-wheel all-terrain vehicle parked outside, electric guitar strains emerging from a second-floor window. There may be no telephone in the room at the King Eider Hotel, but you can catch CNN off the village's wireless Internet.

Listen closely, and you might hear the surf, but you will not hear the barking of dogs; they are prohibited on the island to protect the seals. So are rats. The tribe and city work with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to maintain a network of traps, poison and patrols. The words "Keep St. Paul Rat Free" appear on signs in strategic locations across the island.

Dustin Jones guides the pickup truck over gravel roads past the fisheries service barracks, past the slopes of extinct volcanoes, past a field where heavy equipment plows under soil contaminated by decades-old fuel spills and leaks, past the airport. He drives eight miles or so toward the northeast end of the island, unlocking a gate and moving by an old cottage and a beautiful open-air chapel that marks one of the island's earliest village sites. It's time for another daily patrol.

Near an old lava flow that juts out into the Bering Sea, Jones scans the beach line for cavorting seals. A week earlier, he spied a male killer whale a couple of hundred yards out, holding offshore with its pod. The whale suddenly rushed the beach and dove, seals exploding to each side. It later surfaced with the other whales, then faded into the fog. Jones wrote it all down. "I'm looking for just anything," he says. Now Jones spots an immense light brown animal lounging in the surf, appearing like some mythic creature carved of stone. Then it raises its enormous, squashed face. "That's a big old sea lion," he exclaims, logging it. Over the course of several hours, Jones will visit four other rookeries on the island's gravel roads, noting, in turn, three lions hauled out on a rock, a pup tangled in green line, an off-white albino seal thought to be blind amid a sea of dark forms.

All that's missing are the masses of seals once known by his grandfather and all the elders before. "Something's happening," Jones says. "I'd like to know what the heck it is."

*YVA MOMATIUK AND JOHN EASTCOTT / MINDEN PICTURES*

Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming

A shared experience in Wyoming has a way of weaving its way through one generation to the next. This is a place where a park called Yellowstone helps evoke "Hey, look at that!" emotions every day. And where wildlife, waterfalls and Western sunsets leave an indelible mark on your vacation memories. For a travel guide, call 800-225-5996 or visit us at wyomingtourism.org.

Wyoming

wyomingtourism.org

# Modigliani

## A new exhibition positions the bohemian artist's work above even his operatic life story

BY DOUG STEWART

LATE IN 1919, in a squalid Paris studio strewn with wine bottles, Amedeo Modigliani painted a wistful portrait of his 21-year-old lover, Jeanne Hébuterne. A few months later, on January 24, 1920, the impoverished artist died of tubercular meningitis at age 35. The following evening, Hébuterne, eight months' pregnant with their second child, leapt to her death from a fifth-story window.

During Modigliani's short and difficult life, the going rate for his elegant, oddly distorted paintings was less than $10, and takers were few. A landlord who confiscated some of his work in lieu of rent used the canvases to patch old mattresses. Last November an anonymous bidder at Sotheby's auction house in New York City paid $31.3 million for the Hébuterne portrait.

One of the many ironies of Modigliani's career is that so tortured a life could produce so serene a body of work. His art managed to bridge the stylistic chasm between classical Italian painting and avant-garde Modernism. The French poet Jean Cocteau, writing in 1959, some 40 years after the two had hobnobbed in Paris' Montparnasse cafés, called Modigliani "the simplest and noblest genius of that heroic age." Yet conventional art histories barely mention him. His work, it seems, is too hard to pigeonhole within the canon of 20th-century painting. Perhaps more important, his colorful, tragic life has overshadowed his accomplishments as an artist.

"Modigliani in his personal life is almost a caricature of the misunderstood bohemian painter," says Tamar Garb, an art historian at University College London. "If Van Gogh is the quintessential mad genius, Modigliani is the quintessential tubercular alcoholic."

A Modigliani retrospective (on view February 26 through May 29 at the Phillips Collection in Washington, D.C.) attempts to get past his tabloid-worthy reputation as a dashing, drug-using, womanizing wastrel. Organized by the Jewish Museum in New York City, where it drew huge crowds last summer, "Modigliani: Beyond the Myth" offers a portrait of the artist as a serious, disciplined intellectual whose uniqueness as a painter mirrored his

"To paint a woman is to possess her," Modigliani (right, c. 1918) once wrote. The portrait he did of his lover Jeanne Hébuterne (far right) in 1919, just a few months before his death, sold at auction late last year for $31.3 million.

# Misunderstood

outsider status as an Italian immigrant and Jew in Catholic France. (The exhibition's use of the word "myth" is a bit misleading, since Modigliani really *was* a dashing, drug-using, womanizing wastrel.)

AMEDEO MODIGLIANI was born in the Tuscan seaport of Livorno on July 12, 1884. He was a dreamy, precocious mama's boy, the youngest of four children, in a family of cultivated, left-leaning intellectuals. His father, Flaminio, a failure in business, was absent for most of Modigliani's childhood. To make ends meet, his mother, Eugenia, opened a school in the family home, teaching French and English, among other subjects. A sickly child, Dedo, as he was called, had several bouts with pleurisy and at 14 nearly died of typhoid fever. Two years later he was diagnosed with tuberculosis, which would slowly kill him over the next 20 years. Though he rarely spoke of his condition, he seemed aware that his time was short. Later, in Paris, he would announce to a friend, Lithuanian sculptor Jacques Lipchitz, that he sought above all "*une vie brève mais intense*" ("a brief but intense life").

In Italy as a young man, he enrolled in art schools in Livorno, Florence and Venice, where he dutifully studied academic painting and life drawing. He was entranced by the great artists of the Italian Renaissance, a passion that in Paris would set him apart from so many of his militantly modern peers. Still, he wanted to break new ground. At 17 he wrote from Venice to his Livorno friend Oscar Ghiglia: "Always speak out and keep forging ahead. The man who cannot find new ambitions and even a new person within himself . . . is not a man." His own ambitions would take him to France. "As an artist," Modigliani liked to say, quoting Nietzsche, "a man has no home in Europe save in Paris."

Hébuterne (below, in 1919) was pregnant with Modigliani's second child when he died. She killed herself the following day.

Arriving there in 1906 at age 21, Modigliani emerged from his second-class train compartment wearing a smartly tailored black suit and a dramatic black cape. Though slight, he looked taller than his 5 feet 6 inches, and he carried himself like an aristocrat. In his suitcase he packed a well-worn edition of Dante (whom he was prone to recite from memory at high volume, day or night) and a small reproduction of *Two Courtesans*, a painting by the Venetian Renaissance artist Vittore Carpaccio, which he would tack to the walls of an endless succession of rented rooms. He brought enough money from mama to last a few months, if he was careful. But Modigliani was never careful.

In Paris, he discovered the work of Renoir, Degas, Gauguin and, among the younger, more radical set, Matisse and Picasso. Cézanne in particular he pronounced "admirrrable," one of his favorite adjectives; whenever Cézanne's name was mentioned, he'd pull a reproduction of the painter's *Boy in a Red Vest* from his pocket and kiss it. His own early works were somber, Expressionist-influenced portraits with rough-

CATHERINE LANCIEN & DIDIER TRAGIN / MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS, ROUEN; MARC RESTELLINI COLLECTION / JEWISH MUSEUM, NEW YORK; PP. 72, 73 CNAC / RÉUNION DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX / JEWISH MUSEUM; P. 73 PRIVATE COLLECTION / BRIDGEMAN ART LIBRARY

Modigliani painted the last of three portraits of his first patron, Paul Alexandre (above, left) in 1913 and rendered his first serious dealer, the worldly Paul Guillaume (above, right) as his "New Pilot" in 1915. The artist's 23-inch, sculpted stone *Head of a Woman* (below), done in 1912, reflects the influence of Asian art.

MUSÉE DE L'ORANGERIE, WALTER-GUILLAUME COLLECTION / RÉUNION DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX / ART RESOURCE;
MUSEE NATIONAL D'ART MODERNE, CENTRE GEORGES POMPIDOU / RÉUNION DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX / ART RESOURCE

ly applied gray green colors and heavy outlining that borrowed all too obviously from Cézanne and Toulouse-Lautrec.

Modigliani quickly assumed the pose of the flamboyant bohemian: he frequented the artist hangouts of Montmartre and later Montparnasse, wore a bright silk scarf knotted around his neck in place of a cravat or tie and answered to the nickname Modi, a pun on *peintre maudit* (accursed painter). Russian artist Chaim Soutine was a close friend, and Maurice Utrillo, later famous for his painted scenes of Montmartre, was a favorite drinking companion. Modigliani was also friendly with Picasso, though not part of his inner circle. Picasso, who affected a workingman's look with his patched clothes and fisherman's sweaters, seems to have admired Modigliani's wardrobe more than his paintings; needing canvas, he once painted over a Modigliani work he had acquired. Modigliani, for his part, recognized the Spaniard's genius but told a friend that artistic talent was no excuse for not dressing decently.

For much of his life, Modigliani was better known as a character than as a painter. Some 40 years after his death, his daughter, Jeanne Modigliani, wrote that some people nearly swooned at his suave, cultivated manner, while others found him "an unbearable buffoon" and a "boring, drunken spoilsport." (Jeanne, a toddler when her parents died, was raised by her father's sister in Italy. She knew her father only from interviews, letters and other documents. An artist and writer, she died in 1984 at age 66.)

Modigliani's first patron was Paul Alexandre, a young surgeon and would-be dealer who ran a low-budget art colony of sorts in a run-down house on Paris' Rue du Delta. Modigliani painted there rent-free and turned over his canvases to Alexandre for 10 to 20 francs each ($2 to $4), and his sketches for perhaps 20 centimes (4 cents). It wasn't much, but the doctor let the artist retrieve his work if he could get a better offer. Between 1909 and 1913, Modigliani painted three oil portraits of Alexandre. The first was a conventional portrait with the subject posing stagily, with hand on hip. The last (far left), which the artist painted from memory, is the most distinctively "Modiglianiesque," with the rapid brushwork, elongated face and blank eyes that would become his trademark.

Modigliani had entered seven watercolors and oils in Paris' Salon d'Automne exhibition in 1907 and five works in the Salon des Indépendants in 1908, but they'd attracted little attention. Other than Alexandre, no one seemed interested in his art. Embittered, he threw himself instead into carving stone, inspired in part by Romanian sculptor Constantin Brancusi, a friend and neighbor. Modigliani was convinced Rodin and his followers had corrupted sculpture with an overreliance on clay—"too much mud," he called it. Real sculptors, he declared, carved directly from stone. To do so himself, he stole chunks of limestone from building sites. For an occasional sculpture in wood, he swiped oak crossties from the new Metro line then being extended to Montmartre.

From about 1909 to 1914, though the stone dust weakened his frail lungs, Modigliani carved a series of large, highly stylized stone heads. With their impossibly long noses and tiny pursed mouths, the massive works combined the serenity of early Renaissance tomb sculpture with the exotic spookiness of Easter Island monoliths. He also drew and painted caryatids—load-bearing architectural figures—almost obsessively.

"The influence of tribal art, especially African sculpture, on the avant-garde in Paris during this period cannot be overestimated," says Mason Klein, associate curator at

*Massachusetts-based freelancer* DOUG STEWART *wrote about American Impressionist Childe Hassam in the August 2004 issue.*

the Jewish Museum, who believes that Modigliani's acute awareness of himself as a Jew (if a nonpracticing one) and an outsider opened him to the richness of non-Western art. "If you look at his sculpture," says Klein, "you see the influence of not only African art but Khmer art and the art of archaic Greece, ancient Egypt and Rome. You even see some of the iconic presence of Byzantine art."

Unfortunately, Modigliani's carved heads were simply too strange to attract buyers. He used them as giant candleholders in the disheveled studio where he often slept and worked. One limestone block that he had transformed into a kneeling caryatid (p. 78) was too heavy for him to cart away from the vacant lot where he found and carved it. Friends rescued it shortly after his death in 1920. It is now in the collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York City.

"Sculpture helped him think about how you can simplify forms, how you can show the essence of something using the simplest possible means," says art historian Tamar Garb. When Modigliani refocused on painting around 1914, his work had a new energy and confidence.

Most of the painters who made names for themselves in the early 20th century took part in new movements with their own theories and manifestoes: Fauvism, Futurism and the like. "Modigliani has been an anomaly," says Klein. "His work doesn't fit into the standard art-historical categories like Expressionism or Cubism. Not to paint any still lifes and to be so exclusively focused on portraiture was very unusual, if not unique, in his time." But Modigliani was happy to stand apart. Charles Beadle, an English journalist who contributed to a 1941 biography of Modigliani titled *Artist Quarter*, had known the artist in Paris around 1913. "Once," Beadle wrote, "when I asked him what he called his 'manner,' he retorted haughtily: 'Modigliani! When an artist has need to stick on a label, he's lost!'"

"What I am searching for," Modigliani (in his Paris studio c. 1915) wrote, "is neither the real nor the unreal, but the Subconscious."

Impulsive and argumentative, Modigliani had neither the inclination nor the social skills needed for commissioned portraiture. (In an early portrayal of a fox-hunting French baroness, he changed the woman's scarlet riding jacket to canary yellow. Insulted, the baroness refused to pay for the painting.) Many of his subjects were friends or acquaintances. His portrait of Jean Cocteau (p. 3) is a deft blend of the signature Modigliani "look"—mismatched eyes, crooked nose, elongated head balanced on a plinthlike neck—and the poet's icy hauteur. "You see Cocteau sitting there imperious on his thronelike chair with one eyebrow lifted, ready to dismiss someone's stupid remark," says Klein. The painting has elements of caricature but exudes the gravitas of a royal portrait.

Equally revealing are Modigliani's depictions of Paul Guillaume, his first serious art dealer. In a 1915 portrait, Guillaume looks sleek and confident, with a fussy little mus-

HONOLULU ACADEMY OF ARTS; KLÜVER MARTIN ARCHIVE

Modigliani's models often look like one another, the artist's friend Jean Cocteau suggested, because he "adapted everyone to his own style, to a type that he carried within himself." He painted both *Seated Nude with Folded Hands* (above, left) and *Young Seated Girl with Brown Hair* in 1918.

MUSÉE NATIONAL PICASSO, PARIS / RÉUNION DES MUSÉES NATIONAUX / ART RESOURCE

tache and one gloved hand holding a cigarette. "Modigliani wrote 'Novo Pilota' below the figure," says Klein. "He saw Guillaume as his 'New Pilot,' a savvy member of the avant-garde who was going to advance his career. But you also see his distrust for this cosmopolitan know-it-all in the way he emphasized the cocky tilt of the head, the fancy suit, the cigarette, almost as though Guillaume were a pimp selling Modigliani's work."

Of course it is Modigliani's stylized interpretations of languid, melancholy women that are best-known today. But what makes many of his portraits linger in one's memory is the unease clouding his subjects' faces. "All are like hurt children, albeit some of these children have beards or gray hair," wrote Russian novelist Ilya Ehrenburg, who had also known the artist in Paris. "I believe that the world seemed to Modigliani like an enormous kindergarten run by very unkind adults."

The vulnerable-looking child wringing her hands in *Little Girl in Blue* had, in fact, just been scolded. The artist had sent her out for a bottle of wine, and she'd returned with lemonade.

Perhaps the unease reflected, too, the burden of Modigliani's own poverty. He was evicted from a series of rooms in Montmartre and Montparnasse and slept in one-franc-a-night hotels, train-station waiting rooms and abandoned buildings. He managed, however, to maintain his elegance whatever his finances and attracted a number of lovers, though his relationships tended to be stormy and brief. Unlike his artist friends, he refused to work odd jobs, though his efforts to sell his own work often ended badly. Writing in 1925, painter Maurice de Vlaminck recalled Modigliani showing some drawings to a dealer who had tracked him down in his studio: when the dealer angled for a discount, "Modigliani, without a word, picked up the pile of papers and straightened them carefully, made a hole through the entire pile, threaded a string through the lot and went and hung them up in the lavatory."

Aside from small sums that his mother occasionally mailed him from Livorno, Modigliani survived mainly on quick sketches of people in cafés that he traded for coins, a meal, or a drink. Vlaminck remembered Modigliani's casual dignity as he worked the Café de la Rotonde: "With the gesture of a millionaire he would hold out the sheet of paper (on which he sometimes went so far as to sign his name) as he might have held out a banknote in payment to someone who had just bought him a glass of whisky."

In 1916, Modigliani befriended a small-time art dealer named Leopold Zborowski, a Polish émigré and self-styled poet who managed to provide the artist with a small monthly allowance in return for a regular allotment of paintings. The arrangement boosted the painter's spirits as well as his income. As part of the deal, Zborowski gave the artist a room, food, painting materials and studio space, along with coal to heat it. The coal proved essential in the chilly winter of 1917, when, with Zborowski's encouragement, Modigliani painted a string of large nudes that are among the artist's most indelible works.

"Modigliani is a deeply Italian painter, and he's clearly interested in the language of the body, which is the language of Italian art," says Griselda Pollock, an art historian at England's University of Leeds who wrote about the nudes for the Jewish Museum's exhibition catalog. "When you stand in front of some of Modigliani's nudes, you are literally embarrassed being in the presence of such frank physicality. Yet even though he's reputed to be this dashing man with lots of lovers, these were typically models hired for him by Zborowski. He didn't know them."

Zborowski sold one nude for an unprecedented 300 francs ($60), but in general they proved problematic. Francis Carco, a writer friend of Modigliani's, acquired one for his bachelor apartment. "The next morning," he recalled, "when my concierge came to do the room, she nearly dropped dead on seeing the picture over the bed." For Modigliani's first and

only one-man show, at Paris' Berthe Weill gallery in December 1917, a large nude was placed in the shop's front window, across the street from a police station. Noticing a crowd gathering on opening night, the police investigated and ordered all the nudes removed. When Weill demanded an explanation, the inspector fumed, "*Ces nues . . . ils ont des p-p-poils!*" ("These nudes . . . they have b-b-body hair!") The planned month-long show was shut down before it had officially begun, although Weill did manage to sell two drawings. (Forty years later, Modigliani's women were still raising blood pressure. Postal authorities in New York City deemed a Guggenheim Museum postcard of one of his reclining nudes unfit for the U.S. mails in the 1950s.)

WHEN MODIGLIANI met his last and most devoted lover, Jeanne Hébuterne, in 1917, she was a promising art student of 19. She promptly moved in with him, leaving her petit-bourgeois family aghast that she had taken up with a failed artist, and a Jewish one at that. The couple shared a ramshackle apartment on Rue de la Grande Chaumière where, according to a later tenant, "one could see the sunlight shining through part of the wall."

Hébuterne was slender with almond-shaped eyes, a pale complexion and long light-brown braids. She was so reserved that Zborowski's wife, Hanka, later could not recall ever having heard her voice. Modigliani introduced her as his "best beloved"—an endearment he'd apparently never used with the other women in his life—and he pledged in writing to marry her (although he never followed through). Hébuterne's love for Modigliani was apparently unconditional; she even condoned his drinking and barhopping.

In 1918, with Paris under German bombardment, Hébuterne pregnant, and Modigliani's always fragile health worsening, Zborowski organized an artistic retreat in Provence, for himself, his family and a group of artists (including Modigliani and Hébuterne), that lasted nearly a year. There, Modigliani's palette grew brighter and his compositions bolder. Hébuterne gave birth to their daughter, Jeanne, in Nice on November 29, 1918. By summer 1919, she was pregnant again. "I'm getting fat and becoming a respectable citizen of Cagnes-sur-Mer," Modigliani told an artist friend that summer in mock-horror. "I'm going to have two kids; it's unbelievable. It's *sickening*!"

His art was finally getting noticed. That summer, Modigliani and Utrillo were the stars of a major art exhibition in London. The influential novelist and critic Arnold Bennett wrote in the exhibition's catalog that Modigliani's portraits "have a suspicious resemblance to masterpieces."

On a page in his sketchbook at the start of 1920, Modigliani scrawled, "A new year. Here begins a new life." Says curator Klein: "He wrote this in Paris three weeks before he died. He knew he was dying, but he worked right up to the end." Modigliani probably caught pneumonia. Weak and emaciated, he collapsed at home and was taken unconscious to a charity hospital, where he died two days later.

His funeral was attended by a Who's Who of the Paris art world: Picasso, Léger, Derain, Brancusi and hundreds more. In the funeral procession mourners reported being approached by dealers eager to buy Modigliani paintings. Galleries with his work in stock raised their prices tenfold; purchasers marked them up tenfold again. Forgeries flooded the market. Even police officials were eager for his paintings. Modigliani's mother and siblings in Italy never benefited—they owned few, if any, of his paintings. Fourteen-month-old Jeanne's only inheritance was a collection taken up on her behalf by her father's fellow artists.

Four years after Modigliani's death, French novelist Michel Georges-Michel made him the tragic hero of a melodrama, *Les Montparnos* (the English edition was called *Left Bank*), which he modeled on the opera *La Bohème*. Since then, Modigliani's life has been romanticized in other books, on stage and in films, most recently in a movie (no release date has been set) by Scottish writer-director Mick Davis, starring Andy Garcia. Cultural historian Maurice Berger, who has examined the artist's posthumous reputation, says that Modigliani has "never been a darling of Modernist art historians, who consider his work perhaps not that important, but the public has always loved it: its elegance, its refinement, its panache. And people always love a good story."

Sculpture helped Modigliani (below, far left, with artist Pablo Picasso and writer André Salmon in 1916) think about how to simplify forms. After his death in 1920, a caryatid (above) he had carved six years earlier out of a block of limestone was rescued from the lot where he'd found the block and sculpted it.

MUSEUM OF MODERN ART, NEW YORK, MRS. SIMON GUGGENHEIM FUND / ART RESOURCE; ESTATE OF JEAN COCTEAU / ARTISTS RIGHTS SOCIETY, NEW YORK / KLÜVER MARTIN ARCHIVE

FIRST-TIME OFFER! • FIRST-TIME OFFER! • FIRST-TIME OFFER! • FIRST-TIME OFFER!

## DIVERSIFY WITH:

# Early-Strike Gold & Silver

## AT OUR DEALER COST!

1/10 oz. $5 Gold Eagle

Coins enlarged to show exquisite detail

1 oz. $1 Silver Eagle

Gold basis: $423

**$48.00** per coin

At our dealer cost of only ***$48.00*** per coin plus shipping, now is the perfect time to add the brand-new, Year 2005 $5 Gold Eagles to your collection, IRA, or investment portfolio. Prices for these brilliant uncirculated, 1/10 oz. legal tender 22k gold treasures may never be this low again. Call right now to diversify your portfolio or IRA before gold prices rise again.

*Limit three (3) per household, availability not guaranteed.*
*Prices subject to change.*
*New Customers Only*

Silver basis: $6.58

**$8.10** per coin

Every collection, investment portfolio, or IRA should include a store of private, portable and liquid silver wealth, and the Year 2005 brilliant uncirculated $1 Silver Eagles, minted from 1 oz. of pure 99.9% fine silver are the perfect solution. At our amazingly low dealer cost price of only ***$8.10*** per coin plus shipping, today is the perfect opportunity to diversify your portfolio or IRA with Silver Eagles.

*Limit twenty (20) per household, availability not guaranteed.*
*Prices subject to change.*
*New Customers Only*

## 1st American Reserve wants to be your rare coin team.
## Call today...888-324-2646

**1st American Reserve**
7310 Phelan Boulevard
Beaumont, Texas 77706

Vault Verification: ASMGS305

24 Hours A Day
7 Days A Week

*Texas residents add 8.25% sales tax to orders under $1000 • All customers will receive a five (5) year newsletter subscription ($200 value) at no charge with order. • We may contact you from time to time regarding items of interest in the newsletter* • If for any reason you are not 100% satisfied with your purchase, then return up to 10 days after receipt of order for a prompt refund. Due to the changing price of gold and silver, ad price is subject to change • **Please allow 3-4 weeks for delivery after receipt of good funds.** • ***Gold basis: $423; Silver basis: $6.58***

Reversing an exodus that dates to the mid-1800s, Ireland's young adults (at Dublin's Ocean, a trendy bar) now tend to seek employment at home. In the city center, the $4.6 million Dublin Spire (rising on O'Connell Street, right) symbolizes the nation's zesty new national identity: "It stands for us, now," writes columnist Bruce Arnold in the *Irish Independent* newspaper.

# IRELAND UNLEASHED

A booming economy has fueled prosperity, transforming a society long burdened by oppression and poverty

*BY JOSEPH A. HARRISS*

*PHOTOGRAPHS BY STUART FRANKLIN*

HERE IN COUNTY ROSCOMMON, the damp, boggy heart of Ireland, the evidence of poverty, destitution and despair is all around me. I see a family garbed in rags gathering for a meager meal of boiled cabbage, their staple potatoes blighted and rotting in the ground. They are the lucky ones, the fortunate few who still have a roof over their heads. Throughout the county, bailiffs wielding five-foot iron crowbars raze the dwellings of tenants, as women and children, their clothes in tatters, plead not to be evicted. At night, the newly homeless will crouch in *scalpeens*—holes improvised in hedges. Those with strength enough carry stones for constructing roads, working barefoot for pennies a day. Many opt for escape from starvation—and burial in mass graves—by boarding ships sailing for America, Canada and Australia. Nearly half of them will die, stacked between decks in foul, disease-ridden bunks.

REVISITING IRELAND'S GREAT FAMINE, in which nearly a million people died of hunger and sickness in the 1840s—and as many emigrated—is a wrenching experience even now. It is a relief to emerge from the Famine Museum in Strokestown into sunlight. The museum, which opened in 1994, represents the first attempt on a national level to commemorate the famine. The subject remains so painful that it was not even taught in Irish schools until recently. "It took us a long time to get around to it, because many Irish felt some guilt about surviving when so many family members were lost," says John O'Driscoll, the museum's director. "Now we're finally coming to terms with it. Ireland's new prosperity gives us the confidence to face this at last."

Prosperity has indeed taken hold in the land of saints and scholars. Change is visible everywhere, including the teeming N4 highway from Strokestown to Dublin. Irish roads today—unlike the rutted, hedgerow-bordered *boreens* (lanes) I drove on many years ago—are filled with late-model BMWs and Mercedes-Benzes powering past. The traditional whitewashed, thatched-roof cottages that once dotted the Irish countryside have largely been replaced by comfortable, standardized bungalows. As the Brooklyn-born writer turned Irish citizen J.P. Donleavy puts it, Ireland today is "a nation now going madly modern out of its mind. . . . In spite of all its old ways, believe it or not, Ireland is becoming by leaps and bounds a most glamorous country."

As if to make a point about Ireland's youthful energy and changing face—about 45 percent of the country's burgeoning population is under 25—Saint Patrick's Day is now known in Dublin as the Saint Patrick's Festival. In 2003, the city's traditional March 17 parade was headed by Grand Mar-

Nowhere is Ireland's new prosperity more conspicuous than in Dublin (a new light-rail system, above left, speeds commuters, and party time is anytime, left). Before the '90s boom, writes journalist Fintan O'Toole, the Irish sought "nothing so much as to be normal, prosperous Europeans."

*PP. 80 83 STUART FRANKLIN / MAGNUM PHOTOS (5)*

shall Samantha Mumba, a 19-year-old pop-music star whose mother is Irish and father Zambian. "In diaspora countries like the United States, Saint Patrick's Day means mostly looking back to an Irish past; it's an assertion of identity," says the festival's organizer, Maria Moynihan. "But here it's a time for looking at who we are today, and where we're going."

Indeed, Ireland's traditional international emblem, the shamrock, is giving way to another symbol, the Irish pub, a phenomenon from Tokyo to Tallinn. As for "tooraloora" lullabies, they are relegated to the attic of memories; U2, one of the most successful rock bands in the world, pounds out today's Irish music. Ireland's film industry is turning out internationally renowned movies, including *Inside I'm Dancing*, which explores the relationship between two disabled friends, and David Gleeson's coming-of-age story, *Cowboys and Angels*. In 2003, Miramax Films released the critically acclaimed *The Magdalene Sisters*, which excoriates the country's abusive workhouses for women, an institution that endured from the 19th century to 1996. As for traditional Celtic step dancing, it has mutated into *Riverdance*, the rousing Irish roadshow seen by more than 60 million people worldwide.

Ireland has even taken its place among the world's richest countries. The interminable grim conflict in Northern Ireland, a regrettable relic of Europe's age-old religious wars, grinds on, although recent negotiations offer hope, at least, of a lasting peace. But in the 26 counties of the Irish Republic, more attention is devoted to economic indicators, such as the Irish gross domestic product per head of population (a more refined figure than simple GDP), which surpassed Great Britain's a few years ago. As have prices. Everything from a pint of Guinness ($5 in Dublin) to a pound of potatoes—in the new Ireland, largely an imported commodity—costs more here than in England or on the Continent. New wealth has also led to an exponential increase in cars on the roads and one of the most lethal accident rates in Europe. Meanwhile, the average speed in the capital's most congested streets—five miles an hour—is no improvement over the horse-drawn era.

Dublin house prices have soared. In the city's docklands, a fashionable neighborhood along Dublin Bay, a corner pent-

---

*JOSEPH A. HARRISS is a writer who lives in Paris.*
*Magnum photographer STUART FRANKLIN is based in Oxford.*

In Dublin's docklands neighborhood, a location favored by the young, $90 million worth of new apartments sold in a single day.

house in an apartment development recently went for $1.4 million. And in County Mayo, a farmer recently achieved notoriety for his 26 bank accounts and assets of $4 million, thanks to farming profits, canny investing and a wee bit o' tax evasion. "Many of us may be glad to see the back of holy Ireland, martyred Ireland and peasant Ireland," writes Fintan O'Toole, a Dublin columnist. "Most of us may have wanted nothing so much as to be normal, prosperous Europeans."

Indeed, Ireland's high-rolling citizens seem bent on making up for lost time. At all hours, crowds throng Dublin's Grafton Street, a chic shopping district. Their high spirits are reflected in the new Dublin Spire, the 396-foot-tall, $4.6 million tower that rises on O'Connell Street. The monument stands opposite the General Post Office, site of the fateful 1916 Easter uprising that marked the start of Ireland's drive to independence from Britain. The steel tower, known irreverently as the Spike, is twice as tall as the capital's highest building, Liberty Hall, and has neither political nor religious significance. "It stands for us, now," columnist Bruce Arnold wrote in the *Irish Independent*. "The idea of the city and the country wanting to celebrate themselves with a spire that had nothing to do with religion would have seemed offensive not all that long ago. It seems entirely irrelevant now."

Even Galway, on the far edge of the Gaeltacht, Ireland's main Gaelic-speaking region and gateway to the wild mountains and deeply notched coastline of Connemara, pulsates with a sense of possibility. The city of 57,241 might still attract thousands of faithful each February to the weeklong Solemn Novena for Our Lady of Perpetual Help. But its 14,500 students, enrolled at the National University of Ireland, set the tone. On a recent Saturday morning, Alan Campbell and Francis O'Flaherty gathered in the airy atrium of a new hotel, downing *caffe lattes* and entering weekend activities—golf and paintball—into their cellphones.

The friends, both 29, take world travel and unlimited opportunity for granted. After graduating from college seven years ago, O'Flaherty worked in a series of banks and consulting firms in New York City, Sydney and London. Now he's with a venture capital company in Abbeyknockmoy, 25 miles from Galway. "It's way out in the country, but distance doesn't count anymore," he says. "With e-mail, the Internet and easy air travel, we can handle everything from cable TV investments in Eastern Europe, North Africa and Egypt to telecom deals in London."

Alan Campbell (in a Galway pub) returned to Ireland in the late '90s to work as a TV reporter: "There's such confidence here now."

Campbell also headed for New York City, where he landed a job at a bank. Returning to Ireland in the late 1990s, he became a TV correspondent. "The '90s brought a great change in mentality among people my age," he says. "When I came back, I found that, thanks to the boom, a lot of people suddenly believed they could be millionaires."

The same attitude holds true in Cork (the name means marshy place), the republic's second-largest city (pop. 179,970). "There's definitely more of a can-do feeling here now," Garvan Corkery tells me over a dish of Irish stew and a slice of Gubeen, the local soft cheese, at the English Market off Saint Patrick's Street. Corkery, a 31-year-old attorney, practices corporate law. "In the business world, it's because Wall Street has been demystified for us," he says. "Now we know that things like corporate law, high finance and so on aren't rocket science." Furthermore, he adds, "We've put the old British problem so far behind us that it's even OK to be an Anglophile. You can admit you listen to the BBC!"

Beginning in the late 1980s, an economic boom known as the Celtic Tiger and fueled mainly by foreign investment propelled the country from an agricultural to a high-tech economy, altogether bypassing any heavy industrialization stage. In what *The Economist* called "one of the most remarkable economic transformations of recent times," the country catapulted from one of the poorest in the European Union, on a par with Greece and Portugal, to the sixth-highest, ahead of Germany.

In 1997, Paul McBride (above) left Microsoft in Seattle to oversee a software firm in Ballina: "Ireland had been transformed. The repressive mind-set was gone." That vibrancy is evident too in Dublin's busy Grafton Street (below).

"When I was living in Boston in the 1980s after graduating from college, there were 60,000 Irish-born emigrants there, most under 25," says Kevin Whelan, a cultural historian who is director of the University of Notre Dame's Keough Centre for Irish Studies in Dublin. "In fact, there were more young Galway people in Boston than in Galway. That's how bad it was. You have to understand that to appreciate what happened in the 1990s."

"The economic situation here was so dire [in the 1980s] that nearly all my college graduation class emigrated," recalls Paul McBride, 35, who now runs a software-certification facility in the western town of Ballina (pop. 6,852), near Killala Bay. He studied computer science, but there were no jobs in Ireland so he went to Seattle and worked at Microsoft for four years. "I loved the American lifestyle, and I got to see what was possible, whereas Ireland was blocked," he says, looking out over the steel-blue waters of Killala. "When I returned to Ireland in 1997, it had been transformed: lots of choice, lots of opportunities, people very hardworking but laid-back. The old repressive mind-set was gone."

What had happened was the result of good economic policies, hard work and a bit of the luck of the Irish. After the country hit economic bottom in the 1950s, the government stopped banning foreign investment, cut corporate taxes, made grants to modernize industry and lowered tariffs. More significantly, Ireland joined the European Union (then known as the European Economic Community) in 1974 and began receiving billions of dollars in subsidies and development funds. "The most important impact has been access to the European market that [membership] provides, which in turn has been a major attraction for foreign investment," says Tony Fahey, a professor at the Economic and Social Research Institute in Dublin. "The real driver of our prosperity is investment by American companies"—nearly 600 at last count, which have invested nearly $35 billion and hired more than 90,000 people—"that wanted to get into the European market," particularly in outsourcing, customer service and technical support. High-tech firms such as Microsoft, IBM, Dell and Xerox have mounted a major push into European markets from Ireland. With elec-

PP. 84-85 STUART FRANKLIN / MAGNUM PHOTOS (3)

Rampant development, says historian Terry Barry (above), has destroyed archaeological sites: "You can't have gain without pain." Rising immigration (a Romanian woman begs on the street, below) has also created new tensions.

tronics the biggest single foreign industry sector, Ireland has become the world's second-largest exporter of computer software after the United States.

The breakthrough came in 1989, when Intel bypassed Scotland to locate its manufacturing center for European computer systems and semiconductors in Leixlip, west of Dublin. Today, its $3.5 billion plant employs 3,200 workers. Ireland's latest big American catch? Google, which, in March 2003, announced that it had chosen Ireland over Switzerland for its European headquarters.

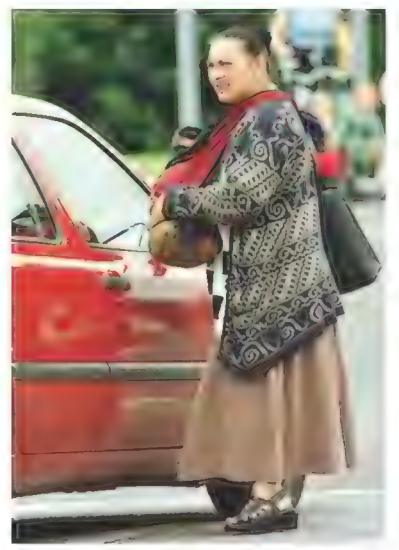
Of course, when the tech bubble burst in 2000, the Irish economy suffered along with the rest of the industrialized world's. Thousands of workers lost jobs; economic growth slowed to a crawl. But with the economy now diversified beyond electronics to include pharmaceuticals, finance and services, recovery is well under way. "The extraordinary growth in the second half of the 1990s," notes the Paris-based Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in its latest survey of Ireland, "has given way to a more normal, albeit still rapid pace of expansion."

With its economy attracting both returning Irish (about 40 percent of the 40,000 new arrivals each year) and foreign workers, a complete reversal in the 150-year-old pattern of emigration has taken place. Nearly half the non-Irish come from outside the EU and the United States; more than 160 nationalities are living in Ireland, including thousands of asylum seekers from Africa and Eastern Europe.

The hamlet of Roscommon (pop. 1,432), near the Strokestown Famine Museum, now numbers among its inhabitants Poles, Lithuanians, Estonians, Russians and Filipinos, who work everywhere from mushroom farms to hotels. The village's largest foreign ethnic group, Brazilians, work in nearby slaughterhouses and dance the samba at local nightclubs. Farther west, in Ballyhaunis, a new mosque accommodates a growing Muslim population of Syrians and Pakistanis, many of whom work in meat and machinery plants.

Inevitably, social tensions are rising. "Being a multiethnic society is completely new to us," says Garvan Corkery. "We've always been a homogeneous, all-white country and prided ourselves on not being racist. Of course, that was easy when there were no other races here." A student newspaper at University College Dublin recently asked students, provocatively, which ethnic minority they hated most. In January 2003, an Irish newspaper reporter, Alanna Gallagher, donned a burqa to pose as a Muslim. "Quite simply," she wrote, "I have never experienced such hatred in Irish eyes before. . . . Racism has become the nation's final frontier."

W. B. Yeats' lines, written in 1913, take on new meaning: "Romantic Ireland's dead and gone, / It's with O'Leary in the grave." In its place are rapidly escalating housing prices, sprawling supermarkets, an increase in greenhouse gas emissions, rising alcoholism, drug use and crime. At the same time, the Catholic Church, so integral here that the phrase "Irish Catholic" was redundant, is in retreat. Divorce was legalized in strictly limited circumstances in 1995, and abortion, though virtually impossible to obtain, is also legal. A number of child abuse scandals involving priests in Ireland has further eroded the moral authority of the church.



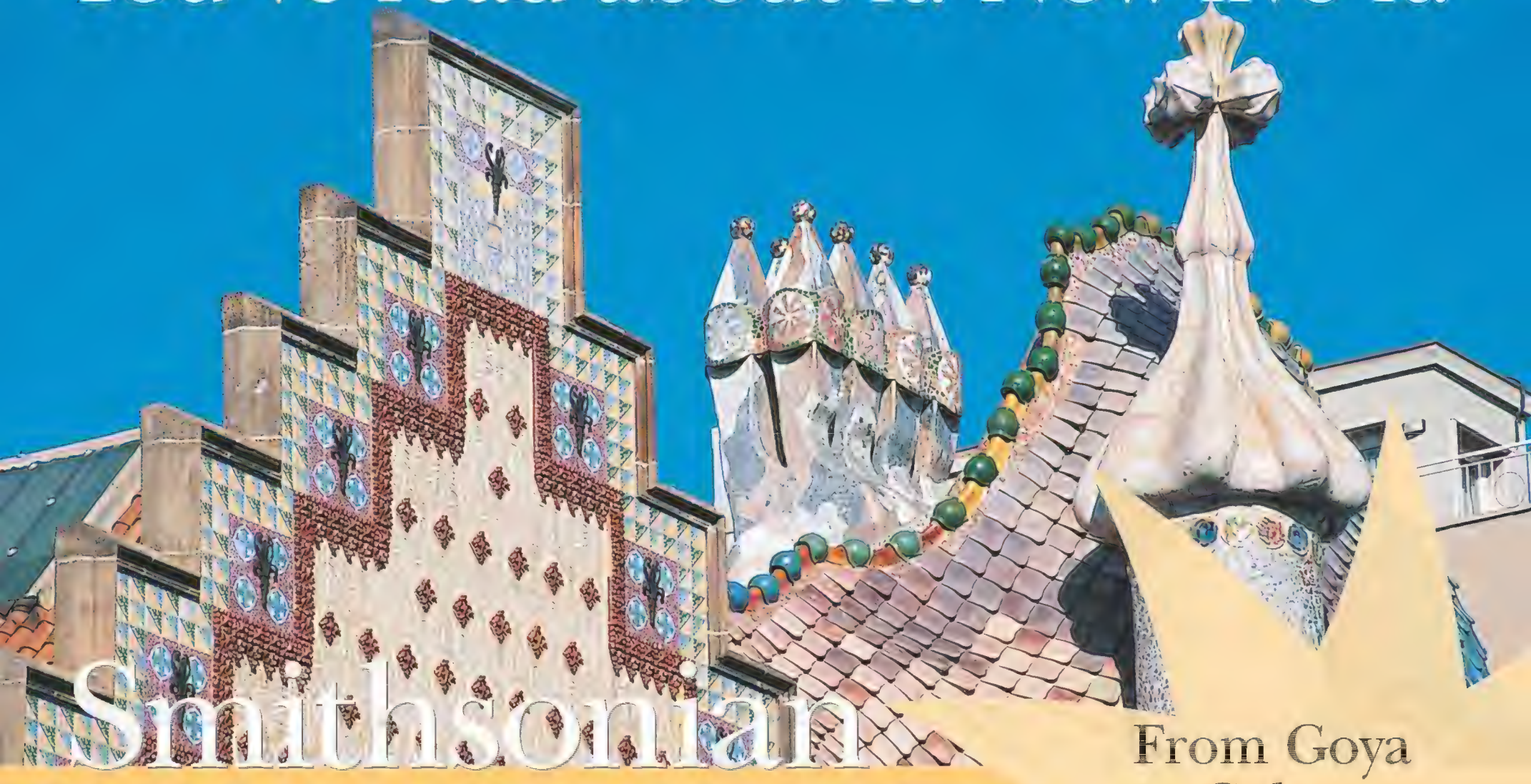
"Secular materialism has changed ideas here on what constitutes a successful or fulfilled life," says Father Kevin Doran, director of vocations for the archdiocese of Dublin. "The Irish no longer identify automatically with the church." Sunday Mass attendance, close to 100 percent a century ago, now hovers around 60 percent nationwide, far lower in Dublin. Six of Ireland's national seminaries for aspiring priests have closed; only two remain.

Traditional Irish culture is changing along with other aspects of Irish life. The government offers occasional gestures to the old

STUART FRANKLIN / MAGNUM PHOTOS; JOHN COGILL / AP / WIDE WORLD PHOTOS; P. 88 STUART FRANKLIN / MAGNUM PHOTOS

ADVERTISEMENT

# You've read about it. Now live it.



Smithsonian Journeys

MEMBERS' CHOICE TOURS

From Goya to Gehry

In celebration of *Smithsonian* magazine's 35th anniversary, Smithsonian Journeys has developed a special collection of Members' Choice Tours, bringing to life over three decades of world discovery.

With an expert Smithsonian Study Leader as your guide, you'll experience historic and romantic destinations in new ways: an invigorating hike across the British Midlands, a rediscovery of the Renaissance in Italy or a trek to the lost cities of the Americas. Only Smithsonian Journeys can bring you this complete cultural immersion, featuring luxury accommodations and gourmet dinners that give a true flavor of each region. For your convenience, Members' Choice Tours depart every month.

**Call 1-800-654-2048 for your free Members' Choice catalog.**

Smithsonian Institution

smithsonianjourneysmc.org

12 DAYS INCLUDING AIRFARE FROM

**$4,165**

**"GAUDI'S GIFT"**

*Smithsonian* Magazine, July 2002, p. 25

Barcelona called 2002 "International Gaudí Year" and celebrated with year-long festivities. *Smithsonian*'s Stanley Meisler took the ride of his life through Modernist Barcelona for the July 2002 issue to cover the celebration. With it, the city attempted to deepen the world's knowledge of the genius behind La Sagrada Familia and Parque Güell. "As I learned, Gaudí is not easy," wrote Meisler. "He often changed his designs as his buildings came alive." Now, you can discover this legend for yourself in Barcelona.

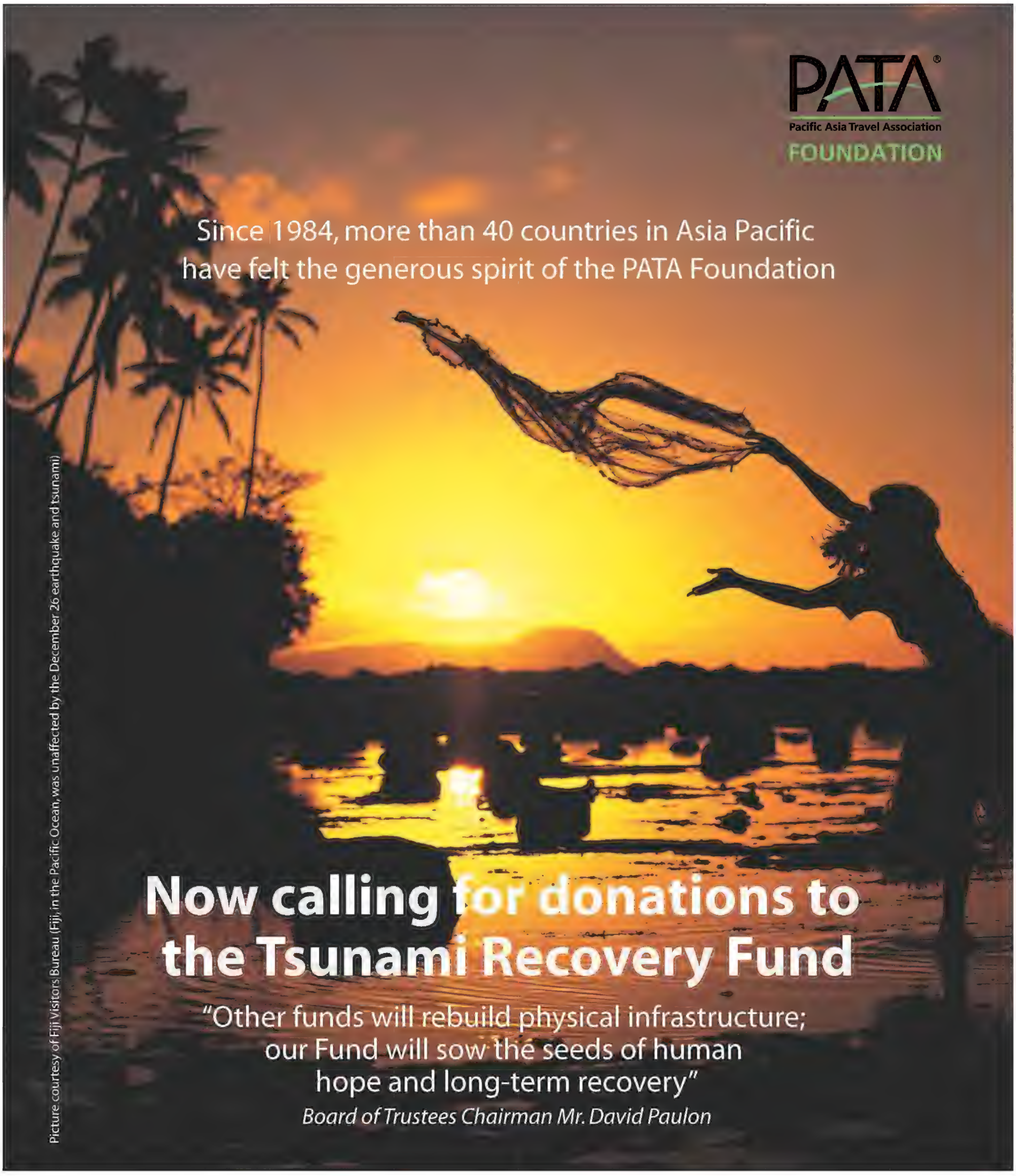
EUROPE • THE AMERICAS • AUSTRALIA • AFRICA

ways—such as rejecting postal codes in favor of county names for mail addresses. But conservationists are dismayed by an erosion of the nation's archaeological heritage, and a report commissioned by the Irish Heritage Council, an organization dedicated to preserving Ireland's cultural legacy, states that Ireland's archaeological sites are in danger of being destroyed at the rate of 10 percent per decade. "Due to rampant housing development, many thatched-roof houses are unfortunately disappearing," says Eithne Verling of the Irish Heritage Council. "A major highway now goes through the area of the 4,000-year-old ceremonial site at the Royal Hill of Tara, a place of huge archaeological importance." That storied landscape now lies at the center of an even more acrimonious dispute: Ireland's National Roads Authority has proposed that a four-lane motorway be built just east of the hill—a project vehemently opposed by archaeologists and preservationists. A number of sites have vanished—medieval ring forts, Bronze Age cooking sites, burial grounds, and holy wells dating back to A.D. 500. "We've got prosperity, but we've lost a lot. We're paying a price," says Terry Barry of the Medieval History Department at Trinity College Dublin, who has opposed construction of a highway over the ruins of 13th-century Carrickmines Castle.

And out in Galway, Anne OMáille is convinced that traditional Irish crafts such as Aran knitting are doomed. Her shop, OMáille's, established by her husband's uncle in 1938, specializes in wearable art created by some of Ireland's most skilled knitters. None of them is under 30; most are over 50; some are in their 80s. "Girls today aren't learning how to knit," OMáille laments. "Schools no longer teach it, and they're not learning it at home as I did. The situation changed dramatically after Ireland joined the European Union. Also, women used to stay home and knitted in the evening to pass the time and make a little extra money, they didn't have careers and go out to pubs at night like now. The knowledge of how to do intricate knitting is being lost; a whole sector of Irish popular culture is going by the day."

Is Irish popular culture, indeed, the Irish soul, really in trouble? "The challenge for us is how to maintain a state of Irishness while being deeply embedded in globalization," muses historian Kevin Whelan from his office in Newman House on Saint Stephen's Green. "In fact, it's very Irish to ask about the state of our soul. The day we don't ask that anymore, you'll know we have lost it."

Artisan Anne OMáille mourns the loss of traditional crafts such as knitting: "A sector of Irish popular culture is going by the day."


PATA
Pacific Asia Travel Association
FOUNDATION
Since 1984, more than 40 countries in Asia Pacific
have felt the generous spirit of the PATA Foundation
Picture courtesy of Fiji Visitors Bureau (Fiji, in the Pacific Ocean, was unaffected by the December 26 earthquake and tsunami)
Now calling for donations to
the Tsunami Recovery Fund
"Other funds will rebuild physical infrastructure;
our Fund will sow the seeds of human
hope and long-term recovery"
Board of Trustees Chairman Mr. David Paulon

Donate to the PATA Foundation – www.PATA.org/foundation

Official Media Partners:

TTG

Smithsonian
It's a Cultural Journey.

Artwork Sponsor:

KeeN PUBLISHING

BETTMANN / CORBIS

# CONTEMPLATING CHURCHILL

## On the 40th anniversary of the wartime leader's death, historians are reassessing the complex figure who carried Britain through its darkest hour ~ *BY EDWARD ROTHSTEIN*

CHARTWELL MUST HAVE BEEN a heady place to be in exile. Standing on the manor's back lawn on a misty autumn day, buffeted by brisk, sweet winds, it is easy to imagine the appeal these panoramic views of the Weald of Kent must have had for Winston Churchill, luring him away from London's political battlegrounds. During much of the 1930s, Churchill, who had been denied cabinet position and governmental power by his own Conservative Party, was stubbornly locking horns with both sides of Parliament's aisle. Chartwell was his refuge. And he cultivated the landscape with the same meticulous obsession he gave to his speeches, his hands restlessly probing, meddling, tinkering. There is a photograph of Churchill, wrapped in a muffler and overcoat, some 70 years ago, tiling a cottage roof on his estate. Similar Churchillian handiwork still remains evident in the garden wall of brick he painstakingly laid, and in the artificial lakes he designed and excavated. One of his own paintings (he was a talented amateur) hangs in the dining room of the rambling, oddly cramped house—now a museum run by the National Trust; it shows a gathering for afternoon tea, the seated figures pausing in midsentence. Except that Churchill is turned away from the others—justly confident that the conversation will wait until he is prepared to turn back.

Chartwell (the family estate, above) anchored Churchill (at the manor in 1951, opposite) in tradition. One word, he said, "means more to me than any other. That word is England."

Chartwell was also, at times, a burden—its repairs and staff devoured Churchill's income as fast as his epic writing projects and fecund journalism could replenish it—but the estate grounded him in the English past, perhaps even reminding him of the legacies his parents had so cavalierly squandered. He even established a kind of informal government in exile at Chartwell. It became a place where his devoted friends and counselors shared information and assessed prospects, his country seat, particularly during those "wilderness years" (as they have been called), when there seemed little chance of his ever wielding power again and little reason to hope for it. After all, by the mid-1930s Churchill was entering his 60s. He had served in Parliament for nearly 30 years, had switched party allegiances twice, had been chancellor of the exchequer, and first lord of the admiralty, and had held ministerial posts ranging from home secretary to colonial secretary. But he was beginning to seem out of step even with the conservatives in his party, opposing, for example, any hints of independence for India, saying he was nauseated by the "fakir" Gandhi. One of his biographers, Robert Rhodes James, writes: "By the end of 1933 Churchill was widely regarded as a failed politician, in whom no real trust could be reasonably placed; by June 1935, these opinions had been fortified further." If he had ended his career here—puttering around Chartwell and making an occasional appearance in Parliament—few would have missed or mourned him.

But what also isolated Churchill during those years was his sharp, unrelenting focus on the growing Nazi German threat. And as it turned out, that preoccupation—consid-

LUDOVIC MAISANT / CORBIS

In his youth, the defense of the realm held a romantic attraction for Churchill (as a hussar, in 1895, far left, and as a foreign correspondent during South Africa's Boer War, in 1899, right foreground). He acquired a passion for politics too (stumping in Manchester, 1908, above), switching parties twice.

CENTRAL PRESS / GETTY IMAGES; HULTON ARCHIVE / GETTY IMAGES; TIME LIFE PICTURES / GETTY IMAGES

ered to be "scaremongering," militaristic and dangerous during much of the decade—eventually brought him back to power and helped ensure his enduring reputation. In fact, Churchill's foresight, his independent stand, his unwavering attention—and later, his wartime leadership—granted him a stature in Britain that no American wartime leader, other than Lincoln, has ever achieved in the United States.

*EDWARD ROTHSTEIN, who writes frequently about history and the arts, is cultural critic-at-large for the* New York Times.

Franklin Delano Roosevelt may have guided America through the Depression and led it to the brink of victory in World War II, but his personal triumph was not as mythic or startling as Churchill's; the risks of wartime defeat were not so great; and the effect of a single man's talents not so evident. Churchill was voted the greatest Briton who ever lived, in a recent BBC poll. He touched some fundamental nerve that still vibrates. The historian John Lukacs says that Churchill's reputation may now be at a peak. It is testimony to Churchill's continued importance that the backlash against him may be at a crest as well. One British historian, David Cannadine, recently asserted that Churchill, at his worst, was a "bombastic and histrionic vulgarian," while others have attacked "the cult of Churchill" that seeks to recruit him as an ally in the war on terrorism. In recent years, particularly since 9/11, his very reputation can seem up for grabs, as his statements and actions are heatedly invoked in debates about the nature of enmity, the causes of hatred, the dangers of appeasement and the risks of engagement.

The prime minister oversaw the war from a London bunker (the Cabinet War Rooms, above, adjacent to the new Churchill Museum) and from the field (in France after D-Day, 1944, right). In 1909, at age 35, he had already expressed an ardent desire to "have some practice in the handling of large forces."

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM; BETTMANN / CORBIS

SO IT IS A PROPITIOUS MOMENT for a new Churchill Museum to open in London, which it did last month to mark the 40th anniversary of Churchill's death at age 90, January 24, 1965. World War II lies at the heart of the museum, since it is actually a 9,000-square-foot extension of the Cabinet War Rooms—the reconstructed underground bunker from which a good part of England's war was directed, and which itself has become something of a shrine honoring Churchill's wartime leadership. But the museum is the first major British attempt to tell the story of Churchill's life, surveying its achievements and controversies. Phil Reed, the director of the Cabinet War Rooms, has shepherded the new Churchill Museum exhibition through its $11.2 million fundraising campaign and guided design in consultation with scholars.

But the challenge is daunting, even in recounting Churchill's World War II triumphs. The broad narrative has become familiar and has endured despite challenges and modifications. Reed suggests it will also shape the museum's account. During the 1930s, most of Britain, along with its leaders, believed that negotiation would be effective in controlling Hitler. After all, it was argued, Germany was still recovering from harsh penalties imposed after World War I, so its restlessness was understandable. Besides, after the horrors of that war, no one could imagine embarking on another. Churchill's ultimate position—that negotiation and appeasement were doomed to fail and that war postponed would be more bloody than strength displayed—was considered irresponsible; his warnings wild, paranoid, extreme. So he stood, with just a few allies, nearly alone, and spoke

out with a foresight that is now difficult to comprehend.

But the details of that foresight, some of which will emerge in the new exhibits, are extraordinary. As early as 1930, Churchill, attending a dinner party at the German Embassy in London, had expressed concern about the dangers latent in a rabble-rouser named Adolf Hitler; Churchill's warning was considered novel enough to be forwarded to Berlin. In 1934, when the Nazis were in power and were stirring the German populace, Churchill told Parliament "there is not an hour to lose" in preparing to build up British armaments (armaments that he had, a decade earlier, helped reduce). Germany, he said, was "arming fast and no one is going to stop her." That same year, six years before the blitz, he predicted there could come a time when "the crash of bombs exploding in London and cataracts of masonry and fire and smoke will apprise us of any inadequacy which has been permitted in our aerial defenses." Hitler knew enough to be wary of Churchill, but on native grounds, Churchill's passion was generally mocked as hysteria. He seemed to have been cursed like Cassandra: to speak the truth but not to be believed. In 1935, before Hitler's plans had become clear, Churchill, in dismay, saw "Germany arming at breakneck speed, England lost in a pacifist dream, France corrupt and torn by dissension, America remote and indifferent."

Churchill (at home in 1914) was devoted to his family. Just before his death at 90 in 1965, his daughter Mary wrote: "I owe you what every Englishman, woman & child does—Liberty itself."

At Chartwell, during his time in exile (while he also produced 11 volumes of history and memoir and more than 400 articles for the world's newspapers), his judgments became more informed and certainly more astute than those of the government. He would be fed detailed intelligence about German rearmament by trusted visitors and gain support from a small group of like-minded friends. Then he would head to the House of Commons to duel with the successive governments of Stanley Baldwin and Neville Chamberlain, who saw little to be so exercised about. In March 1938, after Hitler had already fortified his army, built the *Luftwaffe*, militarized the Rhineland, absorbed Austria and threatened Czechoslovakia, Churchill chastised Parliament: "For five years I have talked to the House on these matters—not with very great success. I have watched this famous island descending incontinently, fecklessly, the stairway which leads to a dark gulf." He made one final urgent appeal: "Now is the time at last to rouse the nation."

But John Maynard Keynes, writing in the *New Statesman*, was urging the Czechs to negotiate with Hitler. And so, it seems, was everybody else. The newspapers ignored Churchill's speech, reporting instead Chamberlain's remark that the situation in Europe had greatly relaxed. And the day after the speech, one of Churchill's major journalistic contracts, with the *Evening Standard*, was cancelled because of his "views on foreign affairs."

When Churchill was finally brought back into the cabinet in 1939 as first lord of the admiralty, and then, in 1940, when he became prime minister in the midst of war, his challenge was not to instill fear but to keep it under control. On June 18, 1940, Churchill said that if England could stand up to Hitler, "all Europe may be free, and the life of the world may move forward into broad, sunlit uplands; but if we fail, then the whole world, including the United States, and all that we have known and cared for, will sink into the abyss of a new dark age." In the House of Commons on October 8, 1940, Churchill's jeremiads turned biblically somber: "Death and sorrow will be the companions of our journey; hardship our garment; constancy and valour our only shield." Six days later, No. 10 Downing Street, the prime minister's residence, was damaged by German bombs. Chartwell had already been closed down—it was too obvious a target.

Because of the blitz, the government's war cabinet regularly met underground, in a low-ceilinged, sandbagged basement in the Office of Works opposite St. James's Park, where chemical toilets and rudimentary sleeping quarters formed the setting for discussions of England's strategy (more than 115 war cabinet meetings were held there, a tenth of the war's total). Those secret corridors—the Cabinet War Rooms—were opened by the Imperial War Museum in 1984 and are now a pilgrimage site for 300,000 visitors a year. What was at stake in those rooms is made clear in an entrance-hall exhibit. In Hitler's bombing of England, 60,595 civilians died, 29,890 in London alone. When invasion seemed imminent and the appearance of German soldiers and officers in Piccadilly Circus likely, the government distributed a leaflet: "Enemy Uniforms at a Glance." The leaflets turned out to be unnecessary, partly because of what happened in these spare, windowless rooms, their walls hung with maps dotted with pushpins, their tables covered with

PEREGRINE S. CHURCHILL COLLECTION

ADVERTISEMENT

# Love to travel? Love to learn?
## Take the Smithsonian on Your Next Trip

## U.S. JOURNEYS

### Smithsonian Behind the Scenes
**April 27-30, 2005–Space May Still Be Available!**
Come see what's new at the Smithsonian during this exclusive, behind-the-scenes look at our newest museums and exhibitions. Enjoy private gala dinners in the museums, after-hours visits, special Smithsonian speakers, and luxurious accommodations. $1,895

### Grand Canyon Sampler
**July 1-4 and September 2-5, 2005**
Take a helicopter ride to the bottom of the Grand Canyon for a thrilling rafting trip on the Colorado River and hikes with a geologist. $1,295

### Smithsonian at Chautauqua
**Religion and Justice in the Abrahamic Community, July 9-16, 2005**
**Artists and Their Inspirations, July 23-30, 2005**
**Living an Ethical Life, August 6-13, 2005**
Spend a week (or more!) at Chautauqua with a special Smithsonian focus. Relax in this charming Victorian community in upstate New York as you enjoy thoughtful discussion with Smithsonian study leaders and attend lectures and performances. $1,875

### Santa Fe Opera
**August 8-12, 2005**
Enjoy premier seating at four operas, exclusive backstage programs, and discussions with opera expert Arthur Kaplan. $2,265

### Washington, D.C. Anytime
**Call 1-800-528-8147**
Any season, any day of the week, discover the treasures of the Nation's Capital at your own pace. Includes a three-night stay at a well-located hotel, a Smithsonian IMAX presentation, a two-day Tourmobile pass, and more! From $349

## INTERNATIONAL JOURNEYS

### Flemish Masterpieces
**June 29-July 8, 2005**
Step back into Europe's Middle Ages as you walk through exquisite Belgian cities little changed by time. Come explore the arts, culture, and pathways of Bruges, Ghent, Antwerp, and Brussels. $4,570

### Journey into Russia
**July 22-August 3, 2005**
Discover Russia's rural and urban landscape as you cruise aboard the *MS Viking Kirov* from the dynamic city of Moscow to the opulent splendor of imperial St. Petersburg, with special highlights in both capitals. From $5,150

### Historic Countries of the Baltic
**July 31-August 16, 2005**
Cruise the Baltic Sea aboard the elegant *MS Island Sky* and explore the rich history and dynamic present of these fascinating countries, featuring guest speaker Lech Walesa. From $8,395

### 27th Annual Oxford Seminar
**August 29-September 9, 2005**
Become part of this venerable tradition as you explore one of eight fascinating subjects–focused on art, music, history, literature, or gardens–under the tutelage of Oxford dons. $4,985

### Historic Normandy and the Seine River
**August 30-September 10, 2005**
From your French chateau, visit the Normandy beaches, Mont St. Michel, and Bayeux, then cruise the historic Seine from Rouen to Paris aboard the deluxe riverboat, *MV Cézanne*. From $5,995

## VALUE-PRICED JOURNEYS

**Smithsonian Journeys Travel Adventures with Collette Vacations**
**Call 1-800-528-8147**

### Boston to the Berkshires
**June 10-16 and July 8-14, 2005**
Experience the charm, history, and art treasures of Boston and the Berkshires during this unique program, including a performance at Tanglewood (July only). From $1,299

### Canadian Discovery by Rail
**June 11-21 and September 17-27, 2005**
Explore Toronto then travel across four provinces aboard the VIA Rail to reach the Canadian Rockies, known for breathtaking mountains, crystal clear lakes, and amazing wildlife. From $2,899

### A Grand Alaskan Adventure
**August 6-15, 2005**
From a cruise of Kenai Fjords to a drive through Denali National Park and special programs in Fairbanks, view the best of Alaska's wildlife and meet the fascinating people who live here. From $2,999

**For information on any of our 250 worldwide tours call 1-877-EDU-TOUR (1-877-338-8687) or visit www.SmithsonianJourneys.org**
All prices are per person, based on double occupancy.

SmithsonianJourneys.org

paper pads and ashtrays, their basement infrastructure offering clanking pipes and poor plumbing.

That primitive setting makes the museum's point: so much was done by so few with so little. But visitors will also be able to pass from the War Rooms into the new Churchill Museum, where so much is being done by so many to shed light on a single man. It promises the kind of technological flash that original users of the War Rooms could hardly have imagined, including state-of-the-art multimedia displays and a 50-foot-long electronic "Lifeline": a complete timeline of Churchill's life, with 1,500 documents and 1,000 photographs that appear in response to a visitor's touch. The exhibition room is less about objects than about ideas and information. But it contains documents and artifacts from Chartwell, the Imperial War Museum, the Churchill Archives Centre at Churchill College, Cambridge, and private collections, including Churchill's baby rattle and a pistol he used in his escape from a prison camp in the Boer War. There is even a red velvet, one-piece zip-up suit Churchill liked to wear (inadvertently demonstrating an area where he showed questionable taste). Because viewers enter the new space directly from the War Rooms, its biographical narrative actually begins in 1940 and then proceeds to Churchill's death before leading back to Churchill's birth.

By beginning with the war, of course, the new museum exhibit necessarily gives Churchill's life a heroic cast. But when I toured the new museum with Reed, he emphasized one point: "We wanted to avoid accusations of hagiography." Of course, he continued, "we have accepted Churchill as a great leader and a great man. But we want to see what greatness meant in his life. Great people are not great all of the time."

Churchill (on the Thames with Clementine, in 1940) cherished his 57-year marriage: "My most brilliant achievement," he quipped, "was my ability to persuade my wife to marry me."

In fact, it is impossible to recount Churchill's life without incorporating its controversies, failures and falterings. Even when the war's victory neared, there were reasons for melancholy: Churchill's increasing awareness of England's decline, his failure to convince Roosevelt and then Truman of Stalin's political intentions; and the Conservatives' resounding defeat in the 1945 election that tossed Churchill out of office just as the war was ending. Then came increasing physical frailties and frustrations when he again became prime minister in 1951 and persistently tried to arrange summit meetings that might temper the growing cold war. Some of the controversies in Churchill's earlier life, Reed points out, include the disastrous 1915 Dardanelles campaign he advocated as lord of the admiralty in World War I, a campaign that led to his resignation and a lifetime of recriminations and blame (unjustly so, a government report once affirmed and some historians now argue).

Churchill, it must be said, thought too much of himself to bother hiding his flaws. He did not have much interest in other people's opinions; he was self-indulgent and intolerant; late in World War II, he was often accused of coming to meetings without having read the basic documents. Alan Brooke, chief of the imperial general staff, famously wrote, "Winston had ten ideas every day, only one of which was good, and he did not know which it was." He could also be intemperate: after nearly winning a war against Nazism and its evils, it could not have helped his election prospects to have argued in a 1945 radio broadcast that the opposition Labor Party's socialist policies would lead to a "sort of Gestapo."

But the heroic foundation has remained remarkably sturdy. Churchill's stature has been shored up not just by popular perception but by the sheer accumulation of detail in eight volumes of the "authorized biography," begun by his son, Randolph, and brought to a conclusion by Martin Gilbert, along with the splendid, popularly written two volumes of the late William Manchester's biography *The Last Lion* (the third volume will be completed by another author). Churchill also once boasted that he would ensure his place in history by writing the history himself, which he did: his six-volume account of World War II helped win him the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1953 but does not pretend to be a scrupulously objective history. Churchill also deliberately cultivated the aura of heroism; he courted its charms, welcomed its dangers. He must have been dismayed at the War Rooms' bunker; he preferred to climb to rooftops to watch the German bombs fall, just as at the end of the 19th century, when fighting in Sudan, he would casually stand exposed to enemy fire. There is something childish, even foolish in such dares, and Churchill really did have an almost perverse attraction to warfare (while still being sober about its purposes and horrors). But heroism requires some foolishness: it shuns carefully reasoned second-guesses. And sometimes such actions turn out

IMPERIAL WAR MUSEUM

## American Canadian Caribbean Line

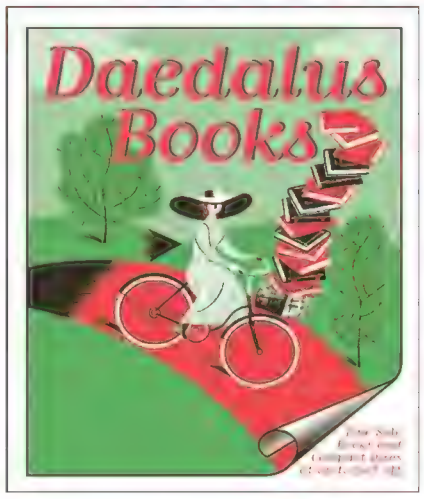
*The Small Ship Cruise Line®*

Yacht-style exploration of historic US/Canadian inland waterways. No crowds or long waits. Memorable camaraderie with well-traveled guests. Everyone loves BYOB, casual dress. Featured on PBS. Great Lakes; Erie Canal; Fall Foliage; Canada; Nantucket; New England Islands; Maine; Lake Champlain; and more.
**1-800-556-7450 • www.accl-smallships.com**

## Casco Bay Wool Works

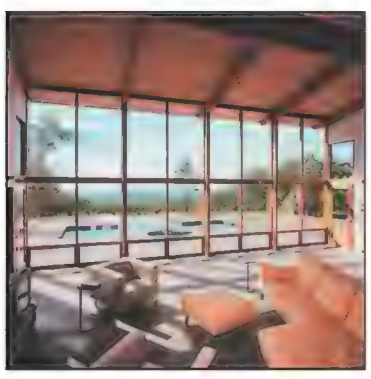
Add style to your rainwear! Available in Ice Blue and Beige, this chic rain wrap is made in Maine from water-resistant Italian microfiber. Hooded, lined. Petite/Medium or Medium/Large. **The Casco Bay Rain Wrap $168.50.** Call to order **1-888-222-WOOL(9665)** or purchase online at **www.cascobaywoolworks.com**

## Daedalus Books & Music




**DAEDALUS BOOKS & MUSIC.** Thousands of overstock books and CDs at less than half-price. All subjects/genres from history to art to children's to science. Classical and jazz CDs priced as low as $3.98. FREE catalog:
**1-800-395-2665 • www.salebooks.com**

## DECK HOUSE



We are the architects and designers, project managers and craftspeople who listen. Expertise, experience, and refined building systems. Only Deck House and Acorn. Your House, Your Way. Order our $20 design portfolio and idea book and start planning today!
**1-800-727-3325 • www.deckhouse.com**

## 2005 Silver Eagles as Low as $8.95

New Customers Only. Brilliant Uncirculated 2005 U.S. silver dollar. $9.50 (#39951). 3 for $26.85. Limit 3. Add $2 postage. No unwanted coins sent. International Coins & Currency, **1-800-451-4463**, Dept. 4565 or Order at **www.iccoin.net**

Free Lighthouse Depot Catalog: 72 page lighthouse catalog with world's greatest selection of lighthouse gifts and memorabilia featuring famous Harbour Lights replicas. Also, wonderful home decorative accessories — clocks, lamps, glassware and more, plus lighthouse themed apparel. Call **1-800-758-1444**, Dept. 5132, or at **www.lhdepot.com**

## MacKenzie-Childs

MacKenzie-Childs' distinctive handmade, hand-painted tableware, furniture, textiles, and decorative accessories are now available through our catalogue. Call **1-888-665-1999** for your copy. Also available at our stores in New York City, Palm Beach, Atlanta, and Aurora, NY.
**www.mackenzie-childs.com**
Source Code: 0520

**SIERRA TRADITIONS® FOR MEN**
**SAVE 35-70%** on famous name brand clothing, sportswear, shoes and accessories. 100% Satisfaction Guarantee. FREE Catalog
**1-800-713-4534**. Key Code SM0305.
**www.SierraTradingPost.com**

## The Masters' Collection

**FRAMED ART REPRODUCTIONS ON CANVAS**
Animals, floral, historic, hunting, impressionist, landscape, nautical portrait, primitive, religious, seascape, still life, western, Newport mansions, & Biltmore Estate licensed works. Choose from more than 90 frame styles. **FREE CATALOG.**
**1-800-222-6827.** DEPT. 1921.
**www.masterscollection.com**

not to be self-indulgence but sacrificial accomplishment; there were hints of both in Churchill's acts.

THERE HAVE, HOWEVER, been important challenges to the main outline of the heroic narrative, some of them far more radical than any the Churchill Museum could fully countenance. Robert Rhodes James' 1970 book on Churchill's wilderness years, for example, was subtitled *A Study in Failure*. It argued that given how unreliable Churchill had proved himself before the 1930s, it is no surprise he was discounted when it came to his warnings about Hitler. John Charmley's 1993 *Churchill: The End of the Glory* went even further, pinning on Churchill major responsibility for the disintegration of the British Empire. He and others have also suggested that there might well have been a way to reach an agreement with Hitler without going to war. This was the very subject of cabinet discussions extending over several days in May 1940, soon after Churchill became prime minister. The foreign secretary, Lord Halifax, whom many, including the king, would have preferred to see in Churchill's place, argued that compromise with Hitler would still be preferable to a war in which many would die and England could lose. These views, of course, also required a more genteel understanding of Hitler's long-term goals and methods than that which Churchill had gotten from reading *Mein Kampf* and watching Hitler at work. Other revisionist views of Churchill include skepticism about the very idea of there being such a thing as a "great man," let alone one who might actually lead a nation in a Tolkienesque battle between good and evil. The historian A.J.P. Taylor, for example, in his *Origins of the Second World War*, argues that even Hitler had been misunderstood; some of his acts were the result of misinterpretations or misjudgments. "This is a story without heroes," Taylor wrote of World War II, "and perhaps even without villains." A doubtful proposition on one count, which makes it also doubtful on the other.

At home and on holidays, Churchill was a passionate amateur artist (he painted this landscape on Madeira, 1950). "Armed with a paintbox," he wrote in 1921, "one cannot be bored."

More recently, though, attempts to dampen Churchill's heroic stature have cited views now considered beyond the political pale. Churchill had a Victorian, racialist view of the world. He held unattractive views of blacks and, at times, Jews. He even signed onto the premises of the eugenics movement in the early years of the century, worrying over the population growth of the "feeble-minded and insane classes." He was a believer in the importance of the British Empire (a position that once would not have inspired the automatic recriminations it does now). He was even known to have praised the character of such tyrants as Mussolini —"a really great man"—and Stalin—"a great and good man." (Was there a bit of job envy in his compliments?)

Yet at every turn in such criticisms, complexities abound and contexts are missing. Churchill may have been inflexibly opposed to ending the Raj and granting India independence, for example, but his predictions about massacres of millions once the British pulled out proved fatefully prophetic. He may have been overly obsequious to Stalin in some wartime meetings, but he also understood, better than Roosevelt, why it might be important to get American troops into Prague sooner rather than later.

But these are not just historical debates about the nature of this particular man or academic disagreements about historical judgments. They are also debates about what sort of an example Churchill provides the 21st century. If he is considered a vulgarian warmonger, then his stance against appeasement is seen as just another one of his militant poses that, like a stopped clock, happens to be right twice a day. If he is a visionary who understood the nature of war and national interest, then his positions take on more resonance. If he held no position that could now be deemed morally justified, he becomes a historical monster, a figure who simply happened to play the right role at the right time. If his positions are understood as more nuanced, affected by his time and place, but transcending narrow preoccupations—if, that is, they were part of a larger vision—then he becomes a figure more deserving of his reputation.

So battles over Churchill's relevance are battles over his virtue and value. And a wave of such conflicts began soon after 9/11. At a time of danger and imminent conflict, Churchill was invoked as an icon of leadership, foresight and courage. After the attacks, President Bush, predicting a long and difficult war, deliberately echoed Churchill's rhetoric: "We will not waver, we will not tire, we will not falter, and we will not fail." Britain's prime minister, Tony Blair, quoted Churchill. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld invoked him as well. And New York mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani read the British politician Roy Jenkins' recent biography. Jenkins returned the compliment; he was quoted in *Time*: "What Giuliani succeeded in doing is what Churchill succeeded in doing in the dreadful summer of 1940: he managed to create an illusion that we were bound to win." In a new book about

RANDOLPH S. CHURCHILL COLLECTION

Painting offered the aging statesman (in Miami Beach, age 71, in 1946) a sustaining pastime: "Whatever the worries of the hour or the threats of the future, once the picture has begun to flow along, there is no room for them in the mental screen."

BETTMANN / CORBIS

Churchill's posthumous reputation, *Man of the Century*, the historian John Ramsden cites a cartoon in a Texas newspaper that ran after 9/11, showing New Yorkers looking at a photograph of Churchill: "They say he was a Giuliani-esque leader," one says.

Other analogies have been made not just to Churchill's character but to historical circumstance. Because Islamist terrorism has been a growing problem for well over a decade, the failure to adequately respond to previous, smaller attacks—such as the first bombing of the World Trade Center or the bombing of U.S. embassies abroad—has been compared to the failure to adequately respond to Hitler's first tentative violations of the Versailles Treaty, such as his remilitarization of the Rhineland. And last year, Spain's decision to remove its troops from Iraq after the terrorist bombing in Madrid was compared to the appeasement of Hitler, an attempt to assuage an enemy or protect oneself by granting what was being threateningly demanded.

Yet when complications in Iraq mounted, such Churchillian invocations, with their implicit praise, were attacked for their naiveté. Churchill was even criticized for being partly responsible for contemporary problems in the Middle East; it was he, after all, who as colonial secretary in 1921 had helped draw the borders of current-day Iraq. And in polemics that attracted widespread attention last spring in *The Nation* and *The Spectator*, the American journalist Michael Lind argued that Churchill was being ritualistically invoked by a "neocon cult" that is both unduly supportive of Israel and seeking to extend American war interests; Lind also suggested that worship of Churchill is itself perverse, since it can be accomplished only by sanitizing him, ignoring his racism and ruthlessness.

Even in Britain, contemporary political positions may be chipping away at Churchill's once regnant reputation. In November, for example, "the first large-scale survey of British academic experts in British politics and/or modern British history" rated Clement Atlee, the Labour prime minister from 1945 to 1951, above Churchill as the most successful 20th-century prime minister. Churchill was considered a unifying figure because of his leadership of an embattled England; now it seems his reputation is becoming associated with political conservativism.

These are questionable judgments, seeming to magnify the unimportant and shrink the essential, but as memories of World War II fade and as current political debates evolve, as-

Welcome to a destination that inspires poets, performers, painters and all people who share an appreciation for the arts.

*White Breeze, 1995 Oil on Canvas, 60" x 48"*
*by Jonathan Green, Collection of Gilbert and Elizabeth Ney*

*That's the art of*
*South Carolina's*
TREASURED COAST
HILTON HEAD ISLAND • BEAUFORT • BLUFFTON

Discover for yourself the authentic Southern charm that defines South Carolina's Treasured Coast.
Call 1-866-TREASCST (1-866-873-2727) or visit treasuredcoast.com.

South Carolina
*Smiling Faces. Beautiful Places.®*

**Chef'sChoice®**
**Cordless Electric Teakettle**

Model 685

**Revolutionary Cordless Design!** Heating element is never in contact with water, so there's no build-up of objectionable mineral deposits on it.

**Elegant Design for Kitchen and Serving Area:** Teakettle lifts from corded base for easy filling and pouring.

For the retailer nearest you, call:
**EdgeCraft**
**(800)342-3255**
**(610) 268-0500**

© EdgeCraft 2004, Avondale, PA 19311 www.edgecraft.com

sessments of Churchill's stature are bound to shift. The heroic image may start to erode. There are times, of course, when even an admirer of the man might welcome some restraint. The War Rooms can overdo it in their attempts to re-create his time and presence. The museum's current entrance, for example, is not the one that was used during the war; so sandbags are there not because they were used in 1940, but in order to evoke wartime danger; they are props. The furniture in Churchill's underground quarters is more authentic—it is meant to resemble the furniture shown in photographs—but neither is most of it original; it came from flea shops and attics. More props. And in one of the small basement rooms, a plaster figure of Churchill, supposedly speaking on a secure phone line to Roosevelt, seems positively cultic.

But that is also part of the point. There are theatrics in such a museum, because it is attempting to dramatize, to bring a particular historical moment back to life, to reconstruct a particular set of experiences and ways of thinking. It is meant to restore something to contemporary awareness, to rescue the past from the pressures of contemporary perspective. And that requires more than just the portrayal of a place. After all, the main cabinet room, in which Churchill and his select group of ministers and officers would hear reports and determine strategy, is little more than a nondescript meeting room with pads and pencils set at every place and maps on the wall. The clock reads 2 minutes before 5, the date is October 15, 1940, and a mannequin of a British officer, papers in hand, is obviously setting things in place before a meeting. It would seem just a Madame Tussaud period piece if one hadn't already gotten a sense of Britain's danger at the time and didn't also know that No. 10 Downing Street had been damaged by shrapnel the night before.

When Reed leads me into the room—which can ordinarily be viewed only through a window—the mundane scale of these objects does indeed make

**Journey Back in Time**
(Give or take 1,000 years)

Want to visit 25000 BCE? 3500 BCE? 1000 BCE? Choose from 37 fascinating historical study tours, from Ireland to China. All are led by noted scholars and feature superb itineraries, unsurpassed service and reflect our 30 years of experience. Visit www.archaeologicaltrs.com, call toll-free 866-740-5130, or write: Archaeological Tours 271 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10016.

archaeological tours
LED BY NOTED SCHOLARS
superb itineraries, unsurpassed service

**Banjo Paterson**
Made in Australia by Akubra®

A premium pure fur felt hat featuring a 2 3/4" brim, full lining and barramundi skin hat band.
*No. 1622 Banjo Paterson.....$167.50*
Sizes: 6 3/4-8, Colors: Heritage Fawn or Charcoal.
Add $7.00 for handling. Satisfaction guaranteed.

**Request a catalog or browse online!**
20 styles of Akubra® • Bosca® leather goods
Filson® clothing and luggage • Celtic jewelry

**David Morgan**
**800-324-4934 davidmorgan.com**
11812 N Creek Pkwy N, Ste 103•Bothell WA 98011

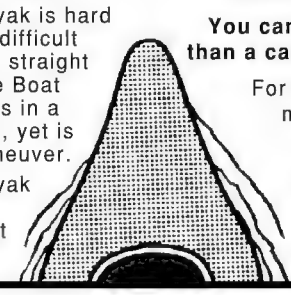
$35 Murphy
**BEAU TIES LTD. *of Vermont***
Hand crafted silk bow ties and many accessories.
For a free catalog:
**800-488-8437, ext. 508**
**www.beautiesltd.com/ad 508**

**THE POKE BOAT®**
**IT'S EVERYTHING A CANOE/KAYAK ISN'T.**

A canoe/kayak is tippy. A Poke Boat isn't. It's remarkably stable.

A canoe/kayak is hard to turn and difficult to keep in a straight line. A Poke Boat isn't. It stays in a straight line, yet is easy to maneuver.

A canoe/kayak is heavy. A Poke Boat isn't.



It **weighs only 22 pounds** - built with aircraft strength.

**You can buy more than a canoe/kayak.**

For more information, give us a call.

**606-965-2803**

the immense dangers of the outside world more palpable.

Reed also points to the marks on the ends of the arms of Churchill's wooden chair, from which he ran the meetings through a haze of cigar smoke; near the end of each armrest, the furniture finish is worn away in thin lines. These narrow gashes were created, Reed explains, by the tapping of Churchill's signet ring and the nervous drumming of his fingernails. Given what was being discussed at these meetings—where the German bombs were falling, what kind of assistance the United States might give, how to deal with ships of French allies suddenly becoming part of Vichy's navy—the tapping and drumming make perfect sense. In these worn lines there are also signs of heroism, but heroism of the human, traces of a man, not a monument, tapping and scratching with frustration, excitement, anticipation, worry. On a card placed in front of Churchill's seat is a quotation from Queen Victoria from the Boer War: "Please understand there is no depression in this house and we are not interested in the possibilities of defeat—they do not exist." This message now seems obvious, unsubtle. But then, in that setting, when alternatives were not only possible, but actively considered, Churchill's signal accomplishment becomes clear.

Another thing that makes his heroism seem so extraordinarily human is that he had no illusions, only ideals. The goal was kept intact, even if the reality would fall far short; that meant constant vigilance was required. He recognized this even in his youth. In his 1899 book, *The River War*, he wrote: "All great movements, every vigorous impulse that a community may feel, become perverted and distorted as time passes, and the atmosphere of the earth seems fatal to the noble aspirations of its peoples. A wide humanitarian sympathy in a nation easily degenerates into hysteria. A military spirit tends towards brutality. Liberty leads to license, restraint to tyranny."

One of the reasons why Churchill later said that if he had to relive any

- Cruise the Legendary Rivers of Europe
- 7 to 21 Days Aboard Europe's Newest and Most Deluxe River Cruise Ships
- Visit Grand Cities and Medieval Towns
- Shore Excursions & All Meals Aboard Ship Included
- Experience Art, Wine and Music Theme Cruises

EUROPE
GRAND RIVER CRUISES℠
FROM $1,898
including airfare*

- 11 to 21 Days. Visit Beijing's Great Wall or Xi'an - Home of the Terra Cotta Warriors
- Cruise the Yangtze River & Visit the Three Gorges with Victoria Cruises
- Deluxe Hotels, Shore Excursions & Meals Aboard Ship All Included
- Cultural Highlights & Evening Performances

CHINA
BEST VALUE TO CHINA
FROM $1,798
including airfare*

UNIWORLD™
*The Value of Experience℠*

SEE YOUR TRAVEL AGENT OR CALL
800-645-0793
www.uniworld.com

*Prices listed for Europe from NYC/BOS. China is listed from LAX/SFO. Air taxes/government fees and port charges additional.

FINLAND

*Explore it your way.*

**The King's Road** is the ancient route of royalty between Scandinavia and Russia. Explore it on your own or with a tour program. Discover the history, culture and beauty of Finland. It's a trip fit for a king. Contact the Finnish Tourist Board for King's Road tours.

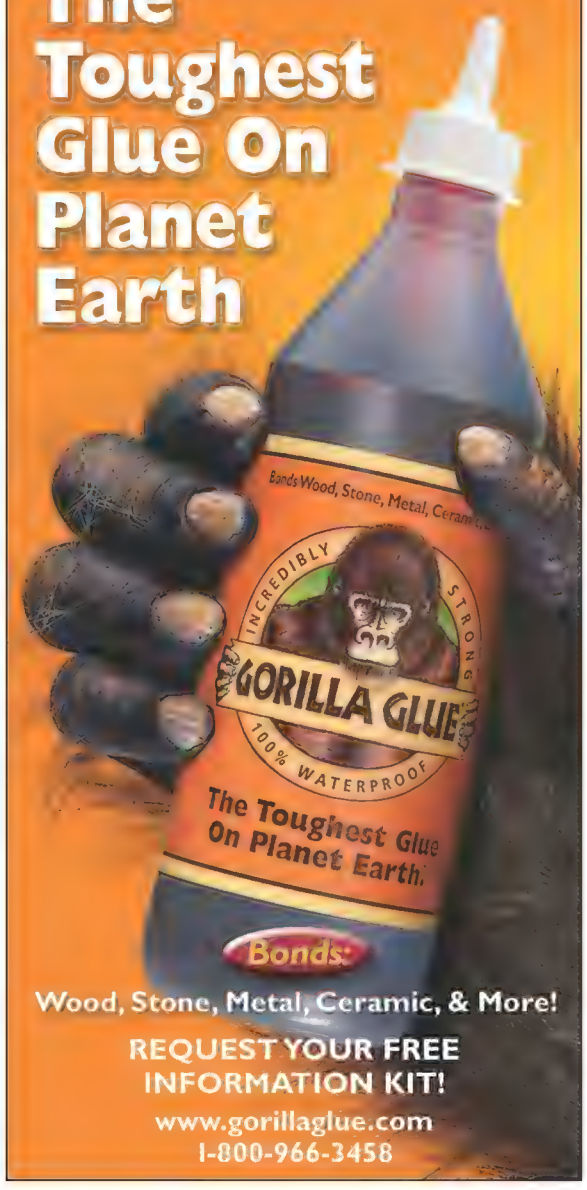
**1-800-FIN-INFO**
**or mek.usa@mek.fi**
**www.finlandkingsroad.com**

FINNISH TOURIST BOARD

KING'S FINLAND ROAD



**The Toughest Glue On Planet Earth**




Wood, Stone, Metal, Ceramic, & More!

REQUEST YOUR FREE INFORMATION KIT!

www.gorillaglue.com
1-800-966-3458


year of his life it would be 1940 is that at the beginning of that life-or-death struggle, the path was clear, the goals undistorted. He actually became more and more depressed as victory neared, because he saw that the "sunlit uplands" he had promised at the war's beginning were now clouded by unforeseen events. Nor was he so content with the compromises he had to make in the midst of war—he agonized, for example, over the bombing of German cities. In fact, his triumph coincided with Britain's decline—and his own.

And no sooner had one cataclysmic conflict ended than others loomed. Before Churchill delivered his famous 1946 "Iron Curtain" speech in Fulton, Missouri, he had watched as Stalin tightened his grip on Eastern Europe: "From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the Continent," he said. "Behind that line lie all the capitals of the ancient states of Central and Eastern Europe." His speech was, in part, a warning that the war may have ended, but that struggle could not. There would be no pastoral retreat.

"It is necessary," he argued, "that constancy of mind, persistency of purpose and the grand simplicity of decision shall rule and guide the conduct of the English-speaking peoples in peace as they did in war." Constancy of mind and persistency of purpose—those are familiar Churchillian virtues: they led him out of the wilderness and England out of darkness.

But "the grand simplicity of decision" is something else. It is a recognition that in the midst of a complex world, any act or decision will have a "grand simplicity" about it. Decision necessarily omits, rejects, determines. It could be grand, perhaps magnificent, and possibly necessary. But it may also seem too simple, imperfect and flawed, narrow and restrictive. And it will have consequences that cannot be foreseen. It will be, that is, human. Acting forthrightly with that kind of understanding in the face of Britain's greatest danger—that may be Churchill's greatest claim to heroism.


JOHN ⚓ CHRISTIAN
DESIGNERS & CRAFTSMEN

*Your Anniversary Date*
IN ROMAN NUMERALS!
*December 11, 1998*
XII XI MCMXCVIII

*Raised Family Crest*

3 DAY RUSH AVAILABLE - FREE CATALOGUE
14K GOLD FROM $550 TO $1000

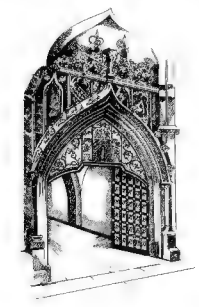
RINGBOX.COM 1-888-646-6466



18th Year

Free Catalog

*Cross-Culture*
*Travel With A Difference*



In-Depth Experiential Tours, Small-Ship Educational Cruises & Hiking Plus Programs with the benefits of ALL-INCLUSIVE Small-Group Travel (average of 15–25 participants on land tours). Off-the-beaten track itineraries in over 35 countries; Europe, Asia, Australia & New Zealand, India, Libya, Antarctica.

1-800-491-1148 www.crossculturein c.com



Radiant Soapstone Warmth

**Soapstone is nature's perfect stove material –** beautiful, durable, and naturally efficient. It heats steadily and comfortably - hour after hour, day after day, and night after night. No power required. Call for a free catalog.

**Wood or Gas**

Woodstock Soapstone Co., 66 Airpark Rd, Dept. 2213, W. Lebanon NH 03784

**www.woodstove.com**

**1-888-664-8188**

# Prescient and Accounted For

*A century after his death, novelist Jules Verne, who imagined Moon flight and deep-sea voyages, looks more prophetic than ever* ~ BY DOUG STEWART

JULES VERNE, the French science fiction pioneer who died 100 years ago this month, is typically viewed in this country as a lightweight. For that, Hollywood deserves some blame. The 1959 movie adaptation of Verne's *Journey to the Center of the Earth* is a "juvenile adventure maintaining a credible tone of silliness," one critic recently wrote, noting that the expedition "includes a goose called Gertrude."

Verne is the second-most-translated author on earth, after Agatha Christie, and it's not because his books are silly. For the record, the original expedition in Verne's 1864 *Journey* includes no barnyard animals. The novel remains one of the liveliest introductions to earth science, fossil biology and evolution in literature. And it's one of the earliest: it appeared just five years after Charles Darwin published *On the Origin of Species*.

Verne (in 1880 at age 51) published dozens of novels (his serial Moon tale) and is the second-most-translated author on earth.

NADAR / TIME LIFE PICTURES / GETTY IMAGES; MARY EVANS PICTURE LIBRARY

Best-known for *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea* and *Around the World in 80 Days*, Verne has always been a major cultural figure in his native land. This month, his hometown of Amiens is scheduled to celebrate the centennial of his death with parades, exhibitions and literary conferences. Yet in the English-speaking world, Verne has been pigeonholed as merely a boys' adventure writer, even though he foresaw heavier-than-air flying machines and Moon voyages, and 20th-century pioneers such as the polar explorer Richard Byrd, the rocket scientist Wernher von Braun and the astronaut Neil Armstrong have said that Verne's writings inspired them. But now Verne enthusiasts are pushing for a reconsideration of the writer as an influential literary figure whose 64 novels and stories (of admittedly varying quality) offer not only startling prophecies but also sharp commentary on the Europe and America of his day.

"There's a Jules Verne renaissance going on, and it's building," says Arthur Evans, a professor of modern languages at DePauw University in Indiana and a self-described Verne freak. Backed by scholarly articles and new translations of Verne's work, Evans and other revisionists argue that Verne's writings are more complex, more skeptical and more politically charged than is commonly supposed. Most English-language editions of Verne's novels are public-domain texts more than a century old. Victorian translators blithely removed references to Darwin, politics, the ills of British imperialism—and much of Verne's humor. Entire chapters were literally lost in translation. "For the first time," says Evans, "people in the English-speaking world are seeing what Verne actually wrote, as opposed to the bowdlerized hack translations that have been available previously."

A milestone in the reevaluation of Verne came in 1989, when his great-grandson, Jean Verne, of Toulon, had the door of a rusting family safe blasted open. Inside he found a small yellowed manuscript containing Verne's unpublished third novel, written in 1863 when he was a 35-year-old law-school dropout and part-time stockbroker. It's no uplifting tale of technological derring-do but a bleak melodrama of Paris circa 1960. Verne forecast execution of criminals, harried Frenchmen bolting their food and warehouse bookstores whose clerks have never heard of Victor Hugo. Published in 1994 as *Paris in the 20th Century*, the work is not great literature—a *New York Times* critic called its plot "rudimentary"—but its release was a major literary event in France.

The novel had languished for 131 years because of Verne's editor and publisher, Pierre-Jules Hetzel, a heavy-handed literary mogul who also published (and rewrote) Balzac. "No

CONTROL DUST WHEN REMODELING
ZIPWALL®
DUST BARRIER SYSTEMS
SLP™
Spring Loaded Poles can put up a dust barrier in minutes.
• Easy to install
• No tape needed
• No ladders
For information on where to purchase, please call 1 800 718 2255 or visit our website: www.zipwall.com

Hilton Head Health INSTITUTE
Get Serious About Weight Loss!
• Lose 7-14 pounds in a 2-week stay
• Break the yo-yo diet cycle
• Learn how to prepare healthy meals
• Diabetes Management
• Discover a fitness program that works for you!
(800) 292-2440
Ask about our special rates and programs
www.hhhealth.com

one today would believe your prophecies," he wrote his chastened young author in rejecting the manuscript. Indeed, with few exceptions, Verne never again indulged in open-ended imaginings of a distant future. "Virtually all his books are placed in the present or the immediate past," Evans says. "There are no ray guns or bug-eyed monsters. He wrote Industrial Age adventure stories." In fact, though Verne deserves credit for a certain amount of technological clairvoyance, critics today point out that he is most properly characterized as an author of *scientific* fiction, in that he made use of actual achievements like the newly invented submarine.

Under Hetzel's tutelage, Verne hit on the narrative formula he would follow for 40 years: a breathless adventure based on a scientific or geographic topic then making headlines. His first novel, *Five Weeks in a Balloon*, a best-seller about an aerial expedition across Africa, appeared in 1863, when real-life explorers David Livingstone and John Speke were bushwhacking through the heart of what was then, to Europeans, the Dark Continent. (Many readers assumed the book was nonfiction.) *Around the World in 80 Days* was published in 1872, within three years of the completion of transcontinental railroads in the United States and India and the opening of the Suez Canal. For readers of the day, Phileas Fogg's breakneck rail and steamship itinerary was realistic, if high, adventure. When the Paris newspaper *Le Temps* serialized the book, its circulation tripled.

Verne's contract with Hetzel obligated him to produce three books a year, which were giddily packaged as "Extraordinary Journeys." The series, the publisher proclaimed, was intended "to sum up all the geographical, geological, physical and astronomical knowledge amassed by modern science, and to rewrite the history of the universe." Verne, who never profited as richly from his work as his publisher did, exhausted himself researching his quasi-educational tales. "If only I could slip in a few adulteries," he re-

Swim At Home™
FREE DVD or video
The Treadmill for Swimmers!
Swim against a smooth current adjustable to any speed or ability. Ideal for exercise, water aerobics, rehabilitation and fun. Just 8' x 15', an **Endless Pool**™ is simple to maintain, economical to run, and easy to install inside or out.
ENDLESS POOLS™
For Free DVD or Video Call
(800) 233-0741, Ext. 3734
Visit www.endlesspools.com/3734

China, Crystal, Silver & Collectibles
Old & New • Buy & Sell
10 Million Pieces
183,000 Patterns
Call for **FREE** lists of each of your patterns.
1-800-REPLACE
(1-800-737-5223)
PO Box 26029, Dept. SM
Greensboro, NC 27420
www.replacements.com®
REPLACEMENTS, LTD.®

KILL LAKE WEEDS
Proven **AQUACIDE PELLETS** destroy unwanted underwater weeds.
Before
After
Spread marble sized pellets like grass seed. Effectively kills weeds at any depth
**Registered with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency.**
Certified and approved for use by state agencies. **10lb. can** treats up to 4,000 sq.ft. of lake bottom, $68.95. **50lb. carton** treats up to 20,000 sq.ft. of lake bottom, $270.00. Prices include delivery charges. Delivery F.O.B. White Bear Lake, MN. State permit may be required.
CALL TOLL FREE 800-328-9350
Call 651-429-6742 • Fax 651-429-0563
Or write for FREE information to:
AQUACIDE CO.
Our 50th year
1627 - 9th Street, **DEPT. 319**, Box 10748, White Bear Lake, MN 55110-0748
www.killlakeweeds.com • info@killlakeweeds.com

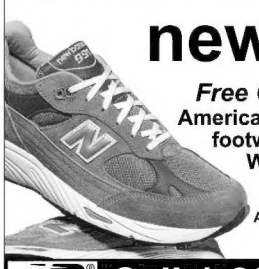
AUTHORS WANTED
Leading subsidy book publisher seeks manuscripts. Fiction, non-fiction, poetry, juvenile, religious, etc. New authors welcomed. For free 32-page illustrated guide-book **TD-72** call **1-800-821-3990** or write to **Vantage Press, 419 Park Ave S., New York, NY 10016**

KIAWAH ISLAND
GREAT BEACH & GOLF ESCAPES
Check Availability & Book On-line
800.803.5153 (toll free)
KiawahStays.com
Near Historic Charleston • Great Beach Vacations • Free Guide

POLAR BEARS
Visit the world's greatest destination for viewing polar bears and other northern wildlife—Spitsbergen, the crown jewel of the Arctic!

TravelWild EXPEDITIONS
800-368-0077
www.travelwild.com

KARKULAGALLERIES.COM
KARKULA GALLERIES
(520) 896-2675 ORACLE, AZ.
ORGANIC WOOD SCULPTURE & TURNINGS
NATIVE ARIZONA WOODS

Keep Your Feet Fit
new balance

Free Catalog - Over 50 styles of America's finest brand of performance footwear. Men's & women's styles. Widths AA-EEEEEE. Sizes 5-20.
Satisfaction Guaranteed
Active Soles 318 Court St Plymouth, MA 02360
www.activesoles.com
Call 1-800-881-4322

bike riders
THE ART OF TRAVELING WELL℠
BIKING, WALKING & GUEST CHEF ADVENTURES
NEW ENGLAND, CANADA & EUROPE
FREE CATALOG
800.473.7040 | www.bikeriderstours.com

RETIRE TO CHAPEL HILL, NC

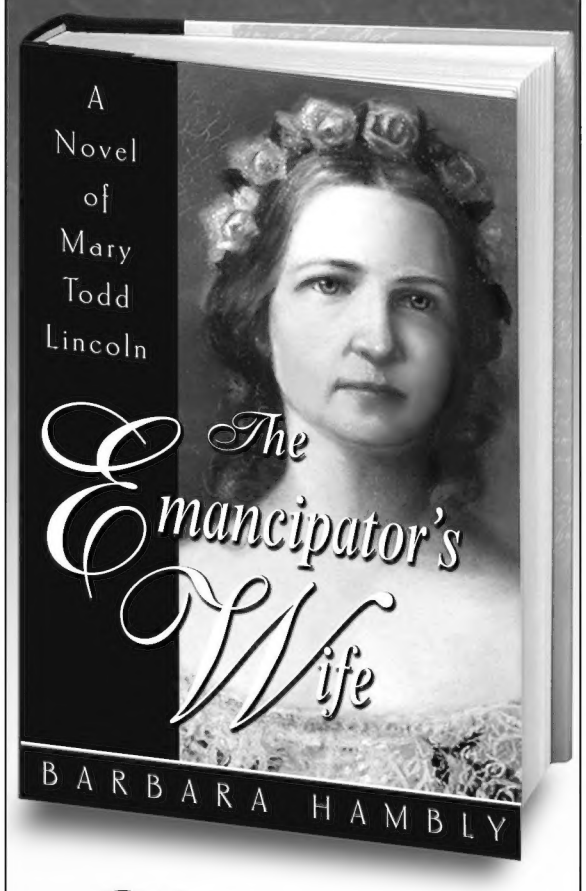
Fearrington Village is full of bluebirds, hollyhocks, belted cows, and fascinating people of all ages.
800.277.0130 www.fearrington.com

McBooks Press delivers the Masters of Naval Fiction—
Kent • Pope • Lambdin • Forester
O'Brian • Woodman • Reeman *and more*
Free catalog: 1-888-266-5711 toll-free, or www.mcbooks.com
*Great selection of new, rare, & hard-to-find titles, plus free shipping on orders over $50!*

marked, "how much easier it would be!"

Hetzel urged him to inject some romance, if not adultery, into his plots, but Verne's great theme was not the stirrings of the heart but man against the elements. "Love is an all-absorbing passion," he once said. "My heroes need all their wits about them, and the presence of a charming young lady might now and again sadly interfere with what they have to do." The women who do figure in Verne's novels are typically ethereal background characters. To be sure, he had his own difficulties with the opposite sex. In 1857, after rejection by a string of belles, Verne, then 28, married Honorine Deviane, a widow with two young daughters. They were not well matched. Verne was a bookish, socially awkward workaholic who almost never traveled, except for excursions in his beloved sailboat. Afloat, he spent much of his time writing. "Idleness is torture to me," he once said. Honorine, by contrast, was a free-spending extrovert with little interest in her husband's work. Walter James Miller, a Verne scholar at New York University, believes the Frenchman's action-packed books were an outlet for his stifled personal life. "Work was an escape from his awful disappointments in love, his marriage being the worst disappointment of all," Miller says. Still, recent biographers, including the author's grandson Jean Jules-Verne, have reported that Jules Verne almost certainly had a mistress or two.

Verne's most popular novels, written in the 1860s and '70s, seem to be upbeat paeans to scientific progress. But this may have more to do with the narrative recipe he cooked up with Hetzel than with Verne's own feelings. His tale of Paris as a 20th-century horror isn't the only clue that his worldview wasn't entirely sunny. A lot of his heroes find happiness in remote refuges (a ship, an uncharted island) by escaping the dreary conventions of ordinary society, with its hypocrites and heartless capitalists. (In 1892's *Propeller Island*, Verne's floating utopia is mostly off-limits to doctors and lawyers, to

"A wonderful portrait of one of the most important, complex and misunderstood figures in American history."*


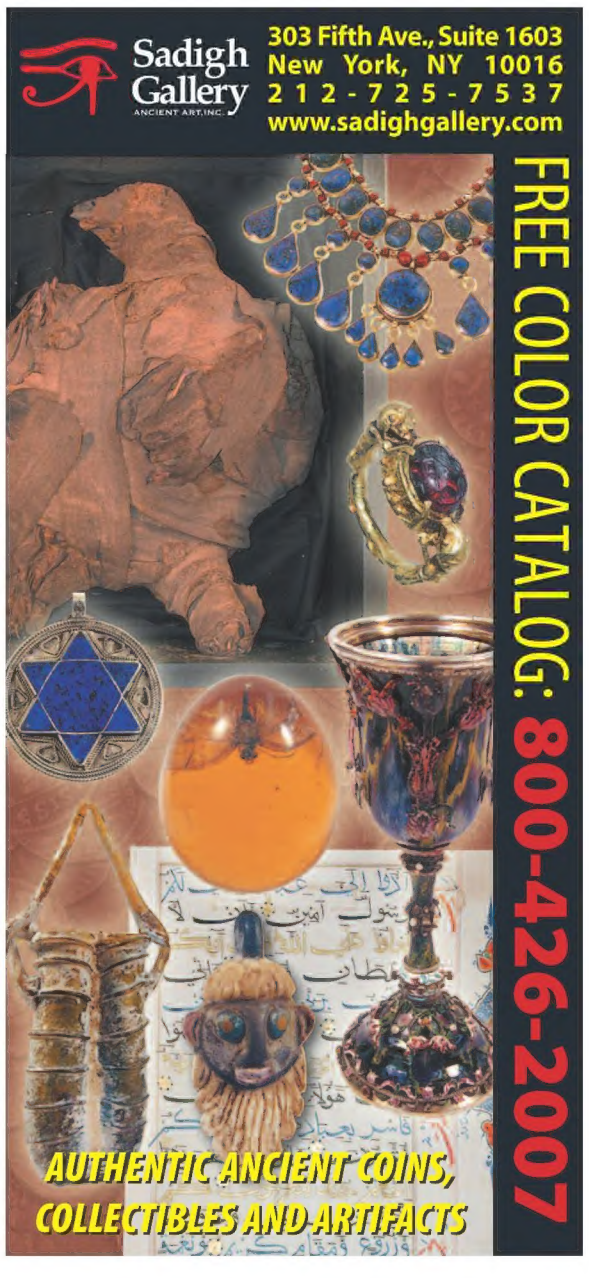
Set against the turbulent backdrop of a bitterly divided America, *The Emancipator's Wife* paints a riveting portrait of Mary Todd Lincoln, the flawed and intensely passionate wife of Abraham Lincoln.

**"Hambly has pulled off the impossible, by encompassing this obnoxious, annoying, and completely fascinating woman.... A real tour de force of historical fiction!"**
—DIANA GABALDON, author of the *Outlander* saga

**"A brilliant novel of the Civil War."** —MAX BYRD,* author of *Jefferson*

Available wherever books are sold
www.barbarahambly.com
Simultaneous ebook available
Bantam

Love is all you need
At Sandals, love is all you need because everything else is included. Enjoy every land and watersport from scuba to golf, gourmet dining at up to 11 restaurants per resort, the option of a European spa* and an unmatched selection of beachfront rooms and suites.
Call your Travel Agent or Unique Vacations at 1-800-SANDALS or log on to www.sandals.com
Sandals
RESORTS
Voted World's Best 11 Years In A Row At The World Travel Awards
*Spa services additional. Administrative fee for resort scuba certification not included. Unique Vacations, Inc. is the worldwide representative for Sandals Resorts.
JAMAICA • ANTIGUA • ST. LUCIA • BAHAMAS





protect its citizens from malpractice and litigation.)

Science fiction fans generally recall *From the Earth to the Moon* (1865) and its sequel, *Around the Moon* (1870), as a prophetic adventure. In the saga, a three-man aluminum capsule lifts off from central Florida, orbits the Moon, then returns to Earth by splashing down in the Pacific—a perfect dry run for Apollo 8 a century later, even if Verne's craft was launched from a cannon. The novelist consulted a cousin, a mathematician, to make the action plausible. "He actually specifies the speed you have to achieve to escape gravity, which is incredible for the time," says Miller.

New translations of the novels show that Verne's originals, far from being just kid-friendly science fiction, wickedly satirized American militarism. Verne was inspired to write *From the Earth to the Moon* after reading Civil War dispatches describing unprecedented carnage and a Union cannon 20 feet long that could hurl a half-ton shell five miles. In the novel, the space voyage's backers aren't noble scientists seeking new frontiers but arms merchants idled by the end of the Civil War. Under a clubhouse chandelier fashioned from revolvers, they make plans to test their latest superweapon by using the Moon for target practice; perhaps they'll claim it afterward as the 37th state of the Union. The idea of allowing passengers aboard their giant projectile is an afterthought suggested by the story's one idealist, a Frenchman.

Verne was never as grim as Orwell or Kafka, but a darker, more cynical tone is evident in many of his later novels, especially after Hetzel's death in 1886. In 1889, Verne brought back his trigger-happy arms merchants in *The Purchase of the North Pole.* Callous and money-mad, the Americans plot to tilt the Earth's axis with the recoil of a giant cannon placed on the Equator. This will melt the ice cap over the North Pole (which they've bought) and expose fabulous coal deposits lying underneath. That climatic catastrophe will follow concerns them not




THE FAMOUS
Stave Jigsaw Puzzles
Since 1974, crafting the finest handcut wooden jigsaw puzzles.
$95 - $4000. *Free catalog.*
www.stave.com 802-295-5200
Stave Puzzles, Norwich, Vermont

COUNTRY WALKERS®
Walk the World
*Small group walking tours and active itineraries*
FREE catalog · 800.464.9255 · www.countrywalkers.com
A GRAND EXPEDITIONS COMPANY

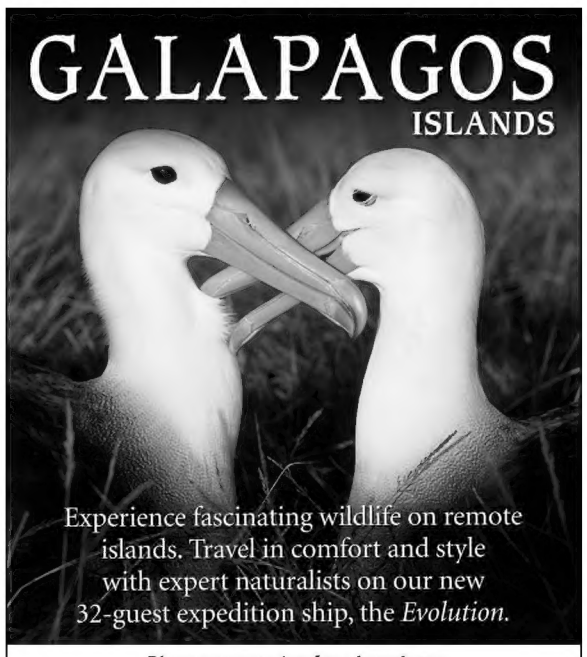
AFRICA ◆ CHINA ◆ INDIA ◆ JAPAN ◆ NEPAL ◆ SRI LANKA ◆ TAIWAN
Since 1989
UPTON TEA IMPORTS
*Purveyor of the World's Finest Teas*
1-800-234-8327
*www.uptontea.com*
Free catalog listing over 320 varieties of garden-fresh, loose tea
34 A Hayden Rowe St.*Hopkinton, MA 01748

European Beret $10
100% Wool • One Size Fits All
Black, Navy, Brown, Red, Camel, Grey
Check or Credit Card w/Exp. Date.
Add $2 shipping per order
www.johnhelmer.com
John Helmer • Est. 1921 • (503) 223-4976
969 S.W. Broadway, Dept. S035 • Portland, OR 97205

ARCTIC ODYSSEYS™
Polar Bears to Penguins
North Pole to South
All Polar destinations between
Auroras to rare wildlife
The ARCTIC & ANTARCTIC
*Air, Land, and Cruise Specialists!*
(800) 574-3021 / FAX (206) 726-8488
www.ArcticOdysseys.com

Over 800 Pirate Treasures!
World's best selection of pirate flags, music, toys, books, jewelry, treasure, posters, vices, games, sodas, party supplies, hats, clothing, and glow-in-the-dark boxer shorts.
Free catalog.
www.DeadMenTellNoTales.com • 800-770-9807

Exotic Places
"Between Weekends" tours
Give us a week.
We'll give you the world!
1-800-762-4216 • www.tci-travel.com


GALAPAGOS
ISLANDS
Experience fascinating wildlife on remote islands. Travel in comfort and style with expert naturalists on our new 32-guest expedition ship, the *Evolution.*

*Please request a free brochure.*
INTERNATIONAL EXPEDITIONS
800.633.4734 • www.ietravel.com

**MEN'S WIDE SHOES**
**EEE-EEEEEE, SIZES 5-15**
FREE catalog • High quality • 200 styles

**HITCHCOCK SHOES, INC.**
Dept. 21C Hingham, MA 02043
1-800-992-WIDE www.wideshoes.com

**Just Strings**
- *Strings for Musical Instruments*
- *Guitar, Bass, Orchestral, Folk & Ethnic*
- *World's Largest Selection*

**www.juststrings.com**

**Smithsonian** (ISSN 0037-7333) is published monthly by Smithsonian Business Ventures, P.O. Box 37012, MRC 951, Washington, D.C. 20013. © Smithsonian Institution 2005. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited. Editorial offices are at MRC 951, Washington, D.C. 20013 (202-275-2000). Advertising and circulation offices are at 420 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10170 (212-490-2510). **MEMBERSHIP DUES/ SUBSCRIPTION PRICES:** All subscribers to **Smithsonian** are members of the Smithsonian Institution. United States and possessions: $34 a year payable in U.S. funds. Canada add $13 (U.S. funds) for each year. Foreign add $26 (U.S. funds) for each year. Ninety percent of dues is designated for magazine subscriptions. Current issue price is $4 (U.S. funds). Back issue price is $5 (U.S. funds). Periodical postage paid at Washington, D.C. and additional mailing offices. **MAILING LISTS:** From time to time we make our subscriber list available to companies that sell goods and services we believe would interest our readers. If you would rather not receive this information, please send your current mailing label, or an exact copy, to: **Smithsonian**, Mail Preference Service, P.O. Box 420311, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0311. **SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE:** Should you wish to change your address, or order new subscriptions, you can do so by writing **Smithsonian**, P.O. Box 420311, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0311, or by calling 1-800-766-2149 (outside of U.S., call 1-386-447-2721). Postmaster: Send address changes to **Smithsonian**, P.O. Box 420312, Palm Coast, FL 32142-0312. Printed in the USA. Canadian Publication Agreement No. 40043911. Canadian return address: 7496 Bath Road, Unit 2, Mississauga, ON L4T 1L2.


at all. Luckily, their plot fails.

By the late 1880s, Verne was disillusioned by world events—the Western powers' empire-building spree, the rise of robber baron plutocracies, even the slaughter of elephants and whales, all of which figure in his later books. Verne was a fierce individualist who had come of age during the political upheavals of 1848, when popular uprisings toppled governments across Europe. Verne, his grandson suspected, was a closet anarchist.

But he was a rebel in print only. In person, he was a respectable conservative, like his parents. His mother, Sophie, was a descendant of Breton seafarers. His father, Pierre, was an obsessively punctual lawyer who kept a telescope trained on the clock of a nearby monastery and who knew the number of paces from his home to his office. Small wonder his son peopled his novels with emotionless, comically precise characters. Eventually, Jules Verne came to resemble the punctilious oddballs he'd so often mocked. Into his 70s, he wrote in his study each morning from 5 to 11 and read 15 newspapers each afternoon—"always the same 15," he told an interviewer, "and I can tell you that very little in any of them escapes my attention."

Though Verne declined to have a telephone, his knack for anticipating future trends was intact till the end. Not long before his death from diabetes at age 77, Verne expressed little interest in automobiles ("One goes so many miles faster than the railway trains, but is that real progress?"), yet he predicted that the car would prompt an exodus of wealthy urbanites to the countryside, where they would be "free from the reproachful gaze of the poor." The last book published in his lifetime was *The Invasion of the Sea,* about a French plan to flood the Sahara that was opposed by Islamic militants. To call Jules Verne merely the Father of Science Fiction somehow doesn't do him justice.

*DOUG STEWART, a frequent contributor, wrote the article on Modigliani on page 72.*


MINIUSA.COM © 2005 MINI, a division of BMW of North America, LLC.
*Frontal, rollover, and side impact-front seat.

NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION
**FOUR-STAR CRASH TEST RATING***

MINI

THE POKE BOAT®
IT'S EVERYTHING A CANOE/KAYAK ISN'T.
A canoe/kayak is tippy. A Poke Boat isn't. It's remarkably stable.
It weighs only 22 pounds - built with aircraft strength.
A canoe/kayak is hard to turn and difficult to keep in a straight line. A Poke Boat isn't. It stays in a straight line yet is easy to maneuver.
You can buy more than a canoe/kayak.
For more information, give us a call.
A canoe/kayak is heavy. A Poke Boat isn't.
606-965-2803

www.dallaspridgenjewelry.com
DALLAS PRIDGEN JEWELRY
One at a time, by hand
Pig Bracelet 14K Gold $595 • Sterling Silver $165
Pin or Pendant 14K Gold $85 • Sterling Silver $35
Unconditionally Guaranteed • V/MC/Amex/DC
1·800·477·1856 • N. CHURTON ST. • HILLSBOROUGH, NC 27278

**Bargain Books**
**America's *biggest* catalog selection**
- **Choose from** thousands of titles, hundreds of new arrivals in each catalog. Hardcover books starting at $2.95.
- **67 subject areas**—Browse Nature, Science, Archaeology, Biography, History, Art, Travel and many more subjects.
- **Save up to 80%!** Bargains galore.

**Free Catalog: 800-677-3483**
Edward R. Hamilton, Bookseller
595 Oak, Falls Village CT 06031-5005
**www.erhbooks.com/fxd**

# Anosmia by Any Other Name

*The non-scensical life is still worth living* ~ BY TOM DUNKEL

THIS PAST CHRISTMAS my sister-in-law presented me with a reminder of how different my world is from hers . . . and almost everybody else's.

She was opening a gift—a gift, mind you, mailed at least a week before—when she suddenly remarked (showoff!) that the sender had been smoking while wrapping the package.

Is she psychic? Does she possess incredible, Holmesian powers of deductive reasoning? Nah. She just has a keen sense of smell. Apparently, the wrapping paper carried a telltale odor of burning tobacco.

I say apparently because I can't confirm that fact. My nose serves about as much functional purpose as the hood ornament on an automobile. A gift could be on fire and if I were blindfolded, I'd try to open it. At least until I felt my fingers getting barbecued.

I have anosmia, the medical term for an inability to smell. There are an estimated three million anosmiacs in the United States, though, frankly, many of us prefer to be called simply "Nozzies." That has a kinder, gentler, less crazy-person ring to it.

But make no mistake: we nozzies are a breed apart from all you "Olfies," who feel obliged to invent deodorants and breath mints, who hang teeny pine-scented cardboard trees on the rearview mirror of your cars, who are forever prattling on about the splendid aroma of the ocean, roses and fresh-baked bread.

As handicaps go, admittedly I've been saddled with a relatively benign one. Scruffy men don't stand on street corners muttering, "Hey, buddy, gotta dollar for a guy who never smelled English Leather?"

But living an olfactorally deprived existence does have anxiety-causing consequences. I've left a chicken potpie baking in the oven all night long, until a neighbor tapped on my door and asked if my house was on fire. Undetected gas leaks haunt my dreams. How many times have I gone into a business meeting, brimming with bright ideas and great promise, only to gross out a roomful of colleagues because I unwittingly put on clothes that evoked a high-school gym locker?

Research studies show that . . . hmm, what was I going to say? . . . oh, yes, there's a strong link between odor and memory. In addition, there's anecdotal evidence that smell affects behavior. Hence some stores spritz the air with fragrances that supposedly put customers in more of a spending mood.

Smells, too, of course, are integral to eating. Olfie friends invariably ask me The Question: Can you taste food? Yes, but not as acutely as they do. My sense of taste is the equivalent of a black-and-white movie.

I'm a born, or congenital, anosmiac, as opposed to those who've lost their sense of smell due to illness or head trauma. About 20 years ago I underwent a battery of tests at Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. A nutritionist began by quizzing me on my eating habits, asking highly sensitive, deeply personal questions such as "Do you ever crave nonfood items such as cornstarch, plaster, dirt, clay or ice?" Absolutely not. I don't even like plaster as a pizza topping. I wouldn't eat a cornstarch sandwich if you paid me. Probably.

After hours of sampling paper cups filled with sweet-and-sour liquids and sniffing squeeze bottles laced with exotic odors, a Monell doctor told me that my sense of taste had earned a passing grade. The bad news was that my nasal passages lack even a bare-minimum number of olfactory receptor cells.

I've made peace with my condition, though. I know I will never catch a whiff of rose petals. Then too, a skunk will never ruin my picnic.

I also know that if you are a member of the olfactory elite and if you happen to cross paths with a Nozzie, you should buy him or her (or me) a drink. Chat us up. Learn our secrets. Feel our pain. After all, we may be your future.

Research shows that olfaction declines over time. At least half of all people between ages 65 and 80 have a serious smelling problem. Stinks, huh?

RICHARD THOMPSON